THE NEW

MILITARY INSTRUCTOR.

CONTAINING THE

MANUAL AND PLATOON EXERCISES,

AND

RULES AND REGULATIONS

FOR THE

FORMATION, FIELD-EXERCISE, AND MOVEMENTS,

OF

HIS MAJESTY's FORCES.

EMBELLISHED WITH

TWELVE BEAUTIFUL ENGRAVINGS.

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By His Majesty's Command.

Adjutant General's Office,
April 20, 1792.

THE MANUAL AND PLATOON EXERCISES.

INTRODUCTION.

HIS Majesty having thought proper, to take into his Royal considera-tion, the modes in which the *Manual* and *Platoon Exercises* are at present per-formed by his troops;—and it appear-ing to his Majesty, that some alterations might be made in both, which would be productive of great utility and advan-tage to his service;—particularly, by re-ducing the unnecessary length of the former;—his Majesty is therefore pleas-ed, hereby to recall and cancel his for-mer Regulations, respecting the *Manual* and *Platoon Exercises*, and to order that, in their stead, the following shall be a-dopted, and invariably practised in fu-ture, by his whole Army.

BY HIS MAJESTY's COMMAND.

WILLIAM FAWCETT,
ADJUTANT GENERAL.

Adjutant General's Office,
April 20. 1792.

THE MANUAL AND PLATOON EXERCISE.

Position of the Soldier under Arms.

THE equal squareness of the shoulders, and body, to the front, is the first and great principle of the position of the soldier:—The heels must be in a line and closed:—The knees straight without stiffness:—The toes turned out, so that the feet may form an angle of about 60 degrees: The arms hang near the body, but not stiff; the flat of the hand, and little finger, touching the thigh, and the thumbs as far back as the seams of the breeches:—The elbows and shoulders are to be kept back:—The belly rather drawn in; and the breast advanced,

advanced, but without conſtraint :—The body to be upright, but inclining rather forwards, ſo that the weight of it may bear chiefly on the fore part of the feet :—The head to be erect ; and neither turned to the right nor to the left ; the eyes alone will be glanced to the right.

The body of the ſoldier being in this poſition, the firelock is to be placed in his left hand, againſt the ſhoulder ; his wriſt to be a little turned out ; the thumb alone to appear in front ; the four fingers to be under the butt ; and the left elbow to be rather bent inwards, ſo as not to be ſeparated from the body, or to be more backward or forward than the right one :—The firelock muſt reſt full on the hand, not on the end of the fingers ; and be carried in ſuch a manner as not to raiſe, advance, or keep back one ſhoulder more than the other ; the butt muſt therefore be forward, and as low as can be permitted without conſtraint ; the fore part a very little before the front of the thigh ; and the hind part of it preſſed by the wriſt againſt the thigh :—It muſt be kept ſteady, and firm, before the hollow of the ſhoulder ; ſhould it be drawn back

or

Order Arms

or carried too high, the one ſhoulder would be advanced, the other kept back, and the upper part of the body would be diſtorted, and not ſquare with reſpect to the limbs.

MANUAL EXERCISE.

Explanation.

Words of command.

Bring the firelock to the trail in two motions as uſual, ſeizing it at the 1ſt at the lower loop, juſt above the ſwell; at the 2d, bring it down to the right ſide, the butt within two inches of the ground: at the 3d, drop the butt on the ground, placing the muzzle againſt the hollow of the right ſhoulder, and the hand flat upon the ſling. — 1ſt. Order arms. 3 Motions.

At the word, *fix*, place the thumb of the right hand, as quick as poſſible, behind the barrel, taking a gripe of the firelock; as ſoon as the word of command is fully out, puſh the firelock a little — 2d. Fix bayonets.

little forward, at the ſame time drawing out the bayonet with the left hand, and fixing it with the utmoſt celerity: The instant this is done, return as quick as poſſible to the *order*, as above deſcribed, and ſtand perfectly ſteady.

3d. Shoulder arms. As ſoon as the word *ſhoulder* is given, take a gripe of the firelock with the right hand, as in fixing bayonets, and at the laſt word, *arms*, the firelock muſt be thrown with the right hand in one motion, and with as little appearance of effort as poſſible, into its proper poſition on the left ſhoulder;—the hand croſſes the body in ſo doing, but muſt inſtantly be withdrawn.

4th. Present arms. 3 Motions. 1ſt, Seize the firelock with the right hand, under the guard, turning the lock to the front, but without moving it from the ſhoulder.

2d, Bring it to the *poize*, ſeizing it with the left hand, the fingers extended along the ſling, the wriſt upon the guard, and the point of the left thumb of equal height with the eyes.

3d, Bring down the firelock with a quick motion, as low as the right hand will admit without conſtraint, drawing back the right foot at the ſame inſtant, ſo that the hollow of it may touch the left heel.—The firelock

in

Shoulder Arms

Present Arms

Port Arms or Prepare to Charge

Charge Bayonets

in this poſition is to be totally ſupported in the left hand ;—the body to reſt entirely on the left foot; both knees to be ſtraight.

1ſt, By a turn of the right wriſt, bring the firelock to its proper poſition on the ſhoulder as deſcribed above, the left hand graſping the butt :—2d, Quit the right hand, bringing it briſkly down to its place by the ſide. 5th Shoulder arms. 2 Motions

1ſt, At one motion throw the firelock from the ſhoulder acroſs the body, to a low diagonal recover, a poſition known in many regiments by the name of *porting arms*, or *preparing for the charge*, in which the lock is to be turned to the front, and at the height of the breaſt; the muzzle ſlanting upwards, ſo that the barrel may croſs oppoſite the point of the left ſhoulder, with the butt proportionally depreſſed : the right hand graſps the ſmall of the butt, and the left holds the piece at the ſwell, cloſe to the lower pipe, the thumbs of both hands pointing towards the muzzle. 6th. Charge bayonets. 2 Motions

2d, Make a half face to the right, and bring down the firelock to nearly a horizontal poſition, with the muzzle inclining a little upwards, and the right wriſt reſting againſt the hollow of the thigh, juſt below the hip.

N. B.

N. B. The firſt motion of the *charge* is the poſition which the ſoldier will, either from the ſhoulder, or after firing, take, in order to advance on an enemy, whom it is intended to attack with fixed bayonets; the word of command for that purpoſe is, "*prepare to charge.*" The ſecond poſition of the charge is that which the front rank takes, when arrived at a few yards diſtance only from the body to be attacked. The firſt motion of the charge is alſo that which ſentries are to take, when challenging any perſons who approach their poſts.

7th Shoulder arms. 2 Motions

I. Face to the front, and throw up the piece into its poſition on the ſhoulder, by a turn of the right wriſt, inſtantly graſping the butt, as above deſcribed, with the left hand.

II. Quit the firelock briſkly with the right hand, bringing it to its proper place by the ſide.

The men muſt be taught likewiſe to *ſupport arms* at *three* motions, throwing the firſt and ſecond nearly into one: at the firſt motion, they ſeize the ſmall of the butt under the lock with the right hand, bringing the butt in front of the groin, and keeping the lock ſomewhat turned out: at the ſecond they bring the left

arm

arm under the cock: at the third they quit the right hand. In *carrying arms* from the *ſupport*, the motions are exactly reverſed.

In marching any diſtance, or in ſtanding at eaſe, when *ſupported*, the men are allowed to bring their right hand acroſs the body to the ſmall of the butt, which latter muſt, in that caſe, be thrown ſtill more forward; the fingers of the left hand being uppermoſt, muſt be placed between the body and the right elbow: the right hands are to be inſtantly removed, when the diviſion *halts*, or is ordered to *dreſs by the right*.

The motions in the manual exerciſe will, in future, be performed ſlower than heretofore, leaving three ſeconds between each motion, except that of *fixed bayonets*, in which a longer time muſt be given. Time.

The manual is not to be executed by one word, or ſignal, but each ſeparate word of command is to be given by the officer who commands the body performing it.

In regard to the motions of *ſecuring*, *grounding*, and *trailing*, as well as thoſe of *piling*, &c. it will be ſufficient for the ſoldiers to be taught to perform them in the moſt convenient, and quickeſt me-

thod. *Returning bayonets* is to be done from the *order*, in the ſame manner as *fixing* them.

She *manual* and *platoon exerciſe* will no longer make a regular part of a review, but will only be gone through, when particularly called for by the reviewing General.

The *platoon exerciſe* is always to be done with ranks cloſed, except at the drill.

Sentries. Sentries poſted with ſhouldered arms are permitted afterwards to *ſupport*, but not to ſlope them.—On the approach of an officer, they immediately *carry* their arms; and put themſelves into their proper poſition, which is not to be done at the inſtant he paſſes, but by the time he is within twenty yards of their poſt, ſo that they may be perfectly ſteady before he comes up.

Corporals Corporals marching with reliefs, or commanding detachments, or diviſions, will carry their arms *advanced*, as at preſent; for which purpoſe a ſoldier, when promoted to that rank, muſt be taught the poſition of *advanced arms*.

PLA-

Arms Advanced

Make Ready or Recover Arms.

Half Cock Firelock

PLATOON EXERCISE.

Explanation of the ſeveral Motions, as taught at the drill.

EXPLANATION.	Words of command.
AS uſual, bring the firelock to the *recover*, and inſtantly cocking.	1. Make ready,
1ſt. Slip the left hand along the ſling as far as the ſwell of the firelock, and bring the piece down to the preſent, ſtepping back about ſix inches to the rear with the right foot.	2. Preſent.
After firing, drop the firelock briſkly to the *priming* poſition.	3. Fire.
2d. Half cock.	
1ſt. Draw the cartridge from the pouch.	4. Handle cartridge.
2d. Bring it to the mouth, holding it between the fore-finger and thumb, and bite off the top of it.	

1ſt. Shake

5. Prime. 1ſt. Shake ſome powder into the pan.

2d. Shut the pan with the three laſt fingers.

3d. Seize the ſmall of the butt with the above three fingers.

6. Load. 1ſt, Face to the left on both heels, ſo that the right toe may point directly to the front, and the body be a very little faced to the left, bringing at the ſame time the firelock round to the left ſide without ſinking it. It ſhould in this momentary poſition, be almoſt perpendicular (having the muzzle only a ſmall degree brought forward), and as ſoon as it is ſteady there, it muſt inſtantly be forced down within 2 inches of the ground, the butt nearly oppoſite the left heel, and the firelock itſelf ſomewhat ſloped, and directly to the front; the right hand at the ſame inſtant catches the muzzle, in order to ſteady it.

2d. Shake the powder into the barrel, putting in after it the paper and ball.

3d. Seize the top of the ramrod with the fore-finger and thumb.

7. Draw ramrods. 1ſt. Force the ramrod half out, and ſeize it backhanded exactly in the middle.

2d. Draw it entirely out, and turning it with the whole hand and arm extended from you, put it one inch into the barrel.

1ſt. Puſh

Draw Ramrods

1ſt. Puſh the ramrod down, holding it as before, exactly in the middle, till the hand touches the muzzle. Ramdown cartridge.

2d. Slip the fore-finger and thumb to the upper end, without letting the ramrod fall further into the barrel.

3d. Puſh the cartridge well down to the bottom.

4th. Strike it two very quick ſtrokes with the ramrod.

1ſt. Draw the ramrod half out, catching it backhanded. 9th. Return ramrods.

2d. Draw it entirely out, turning it very briſkly from you, with the arm extended, and put it into the loops, forcing it as quick as poſſible to the bottom; then face to the proper front, the finger and thumb of the right hand holding the ramrod, as in the poſition immediately previous to drawing it, and the butt raiſed two inches from the ground.

Strike the top of the muzzle ſmartly with the right hand, in order to fix the bayonet, and ramrod, more firmly, and at the ſame time throw it nimbly up, at one motion, to the ſhoulder. 10th. Shoulder arms.

N. B. Though the butts are not to come to the ground in caſting about, as accidents may happen from it, yet

they are permitted, while loading, to be ſo reſted; but it muſt be done without noiſe, and in a manner imperceptible in the front.

Explanation of priming and loading quick.

Words of command.

Prime and load.

1ſt. Bring the firelock down in one briſk motion to the priming poſition, the thumb of the right hand placed againſt the pan cover, or ſteel; the fingers clenched: and the elbow a little turned out, ſo that the wriſt may be clear of the cock.

2d. Open the pan, by throwing up the ſteel, with a ſtrong motion of the right arm, turning the elbow in, and keeping the firelock ſteady in the left hand.

3d. Bring your hand round to the pouch, and draw out the cartridge.

The reſt as above deſcribed, excepting that, in the quick loading, all the motions are to be done with as much

diſpatch

Prime and Load

dispatch as possible; the soldiers taking their time from the flugel man in front, for *casting over, and shouldering only*.

In firing three deep, the priming position for the front rank is the height of the waistband of the breeches: for the center rank, about the middle of the stomach: and for the rear rank, close to the breast; the firelock, in all these positions, is to be kept perfectly horizontal. Priming position.

Explanation of the Position of each Rank in the Firings.

Front rank, kneeling.

Bring the firelock briskly up to the *recover*, catching it with the left hand; and, without stopping, sink down with a quick motion upon the right knee, keeping the left foot fast, the butt end of the firelock, at the same moment, falling upon the ground; then cock, and instantly seize the cock and steel together in the right hand, holding the piece firm in Make ready.

in the left, about the middle of that part which is between the lock and the ſwell of the ſtock; the point of the left thumb to be cloſe to the ſwell, and pointing upwards.

As the body is ſinking, the right knee is to be thrown ſo far back, that the left leg may be right up and down, the right foot a little turned out, the body ſtraight, and the head as much up as if ſhouldered; the firelock muſt be upright, and the butt about four inches to the right of the inſide of the left foot.

Preſent. Bring the firelock down firmly to the *preſent*, by ſliding the left hand, to the full extent of the arm, along the ſling, without letting the motion tell; — the right hand at the ſame time ſpringing up the butt by the cock ſo high againſt the right ſhoulder, that the head may not be too much lowered in taking aim; the right cheek to be cloſe to the butt; the left eye ſhut, and the middle finger of the right hand on the trigger, look along the barrel with the right eye from the breech pin to the muzzle, and remain ſteady.

Pull the trigger ſtrong with the middle finger, and as ſoon as fired, ſpring

up

As Front Rank Standing Fire.

up nimbly upon the left leg, keeping the body erect and the left foot faſt, and bringing the right heel to the hollow of the left; at the ſame inſtant drop the firelock to the priming poſition, the height of the waiſtband of the breeches; *half cock; handle cartridge*, and go on with the loading motions as before deſcribed. Fire.

Front Rank Standing.

In moſt corps the front rank fire ſtanding; this poſition requires the left knee to be a little bent, and the right foot drawn back, by which the body in ſome degree inclines forward; ſee plate, No. 11.

Center Rank.

Spring the firelock briſkly to the *recover*; as ſoon as the left hand ſeizes the firelock above the lock, raiſe the right elbow a little, placing the thumb of that hand upon the cock, with the fingers open Make ready.

open on the plate of the lock, and then, as quick as poſſible, cock the piece, by dropping the elbow, and forcing down the cock with the thumb, ſtep at the ſame time with the right foot a moderate pace to the right, and keeping the left faſt, ſieze the ſmall of the butt with the right hand: The piece muſt be held in this poſition perpendicular, and oppoſite the left ſide of the face, the butt cloſe to the breaſt, but not preſſed, the body ſtraight and full to the front, and the head erect.

Preſent. As in the foregoing explanation for the front rank.

Fire. Pull the trigger ſtrong with the middle finger, and, as ſoon as fired, bring the firelock to the priming poſition, about the height of the ſtomach; the reſt, as in the explanation of *priming* and *loading*—with this difference only, that the left foot is to be drawn up to the right, at the ſame time that the firelock is brought down to the priming poſition; and that, immediately after the firelock is thrown up to the ſhoulder, the men ſpring to the left again, and cover their file leaders.

Rear

As Center Rank Fire

Rear Rank.

Recover and cock, as before directed for the center rank, and as the firelock is brought to the recover, ſtep briſkly to the right a full pace, at the ſame time placing the left heel about ſix inches before the point of the right foot.— The body to be kept ſtraight, and as ſquare to the front as poſſible. Make ready.

As in explanation for the center rank. Preſent.

As in explanation for the center rank, remembering only the difference of the priming poſition for this rank, as before deſcribed; after firing and ſhouldering, the men ſtep as the center rank does. Fire.

In firing with the front rank *ſtanding*, that rank makes ready, &c. as ſpecified in the article relative to the *platoon exerciſe.*

N. B. In giving words of command, as well in as out of the ranks, officers are to ſtand perfectly ſteady, and in their proper poſition; their ſwords held firmly in the full of the right hand, with the upper part of the blade reſting againſt the ſhoulder, the right wriſt againſt the hip, and the elbow drawn back. Officers.

Firing

Firing by Platoons.

Officers, &c.

The officers, inftead of giving the words, *platoon*, *make ready*, *prefent*, *fire*, are to pronounce the words fhort, as for inftance, *toon*, *ready*, *pfent*, *fire*.

In firing by platoons, or divifions, the officers commanding them are to ftep out one pace, on the clofe of the *preparative*, and face to the left towards their men: They there ftand perfectly fteady till the laft part of the *general*, when they ftep back again into their proper intervals all at the fame time.—After a divifion has fired, the right hand man of it fteps out one pace in front of the officer, but ftill keeping his own proper front, and gives the time for *cafting about* and *fhouldering*, after which he falls back again into his place in the front rank.

The flugel man of a battalion, is alfo to keep his front, in giving the time of exercife.

In firing by grand divifions, the center officer falls back, on the *preparative*, into the fourth rank, and is replaced by the covering ferjeant.

FINIS.

By His Majesty's Command.

Adjutant General's Office,
June 1, 1792.

RULES AND REGULATIONS

FOR THE

FORMATION, FIELD-EXERCISE,

AND MOVEMENTS,

OF

HIS MAJESTY's FORCES.

Adjutant General's Office,
1st June, 1792.

HIS MAJESTY thinking it highly expedient and neceſſary, for the benefit of his ſervice at large, that one uniform ſyſtem of field-exerciſe and movement, founded on juſt and true principles, ſhould be eſtabliſhed, and invariably practiſed throughout his Army, is therefore pleaſed to direct, that the Rules and Regulations, approved of by his MAJESTY, for this important purpoſe, and now publiſhed herewith, ſhall be ſtrictly followed and adhered to, without any deviation whatſoever therefrom: And ſuch orders before given, as may be found to interfere with, or counteract, their effect and operation, are to be conſidered as hereby cancelled and annulled. It is his MAJESTY's farther pleaſure, that the General Officers appointed to review his troops, ſhall be inſtructed to pay particular attention to the performance of every part of theſe Regulations, and to report their obſervations thereupon for his MAJESTY's information, ſo that the exact uniformity required in all movements may be attained and preſerved, and his Royal intentions thereby carried into full effect.

BY HIS MAJESTY'S COMMAND,

WILLIAM FAWCETT,
ADJUTANT GENERAL.

INTRODUCTION.

THE great object in view from these Regulations, is to establish one general and just system of movement, which directing and governing the operations of great as well as of small bodies of troops, is to be rigidly conformed to, and practised by every regiment in His Majesty's service.—The important purposes of this system are to reconcile celerity with order; to prevent hurry, which must always produce confusion, loss of time, unsteadiness, irresolution, inattention to command, &c. to ensure precision and correctness, by which alone great bodies will be able to arrive at their object in good order, and in the shortest space of time; to inculcate and enforce the indispensable necessity of military dependence, and of mutual effort and support in action, which are the great ends of discipline; to simplify the execution, and to abridge the variety of movements, as much as possible, by adopting such only as are necessary for combined exertions in corps, and that can be required, or applied in service, regarding all matters of parade and show merely as secondary objects; to ascertain to all ranks the part each will have to act, in every change of situation that can happen, so that explanation may not retard, at a moment when execution should take place; to enable the commanding officer of any body of troops, whether great or small,

to

to retain the whole relatively as it were in his hand and management, at every inftant; fo as to be capable of reftraining, at all times, the bad effects of fuch ideas of independent and individual exertion as are vifionary and hurtful, and of directing them to their true and proper objects;—thofe of order, of combined effort, and of regulated obedience, by the united force of all which, a well difciplined enemy can only be defeated.

To attain thefe effential ends, no extraordinary alteration will be required; or any thing farther enjoined than a ftrict obfervance of the rules hereafter laid down, and a dereliction of fuch practices as would counteract them.

Thefe rules will be found few, fimple, and adapted to the underftanding and comprehenfion of every individual, but they will require perfect attention in all ranks; —In the foldier, an equal and cadenced march, acquired and confirmed by habit, independent of mufic, or found:—In the officer, precifion and energy of command; the prefervation of juft diftances, and the accurate leading of divifions, on given points of march, and formation: Thefe circumftances, together with the united exertions of all, will foon attain that precifion of movement, which is fo effential, and without which valour alone will not avail.

Thefe Regulations are divided into parts; and each part fubdivided into various articles of explanation.

PART

PART I.

Of the Drill, or Instruction of the Recruit.

The ſeveral articles of inſtruction, and the progreſſion, and manner in which they are to be taught are there detailed.

PART II.

Of the Platoon, or Company.

The inſtruction, and various operations of the company, which enable it to act in battalion, are there detailed.

Formation of the Company.

Of the Battalion.

The ſeveral operations and movements of the battalion, are there detailed.

Whatever additional or explanatory articles of regulation may hereafter be found neceſſary, will be given in due time.

PART FIRST.

INSTRUCTION OF THE RECRUIT.

	Sections.	*Without Arms.*
Each Recruit ſepa-rately inſtructed.	1	Poſition of the ſoldier
	2	Standing at eaſe
	3	Eyes to the right
	4	The Facings
	5	Poſition in marching
	6	Ordinary ſtep
	7	The halt
	8	Oblique ſtep
3 or 4 recruits formed at open files.	9	Dreſſing when halted
	10	Stepping out
	11	Mark time
	12	Stepping ſhort
	13	Changing the feet
	14	The ſide, or cloſing ſtep
	15	Back ſtep
	16	The quick ſtep
	17	The quickeſt ſtep

6 or 8 recruits in 1 rank, at cloſe files.	18	File marching
	19	Wheeling of a ſingle rank in ordinary time from the halt
	20	Wheeling of a ſingle rank from the march
	21	Wheeling backwards a ſingle rank
	22	Wheeling of a ſingle rank, on a moveable pivot

With Arms.

Each recruit.	23	Poſition of the ſoldier
	24	Different motions of the firelock
6 or 8 files of recruits in a ſquare.	25	Attention in forming the ſquad
	26	Open order
	27	Cloſe order
	28	Manual exerciſe
	29	Platoon exerciſe
	30	Firings
	31	Marching to the front and rear
	32	Open and cloſe order on the march
	33	Marching in file to a flank
	34	Wheeling in file
	35	Oblique marching in front
	36	Oblique marching in file
	37	Wheeling forward from the halt
	38	Wheeling backward
	39	Wheeling from the march, on a halted and moveable pivot
	40	Stepping out, ſtepping ſhort, mark time, changing feet, the ſide ſtep, ſtepping back

End of Part I.

PART SECOND.

OF THE PLATOON, OR COMPANY.

Sections.

41 Formation of the platoon
42 Marching to the front
43 The ſide ſtep
44 The back ſtep
45 File marching
46 Wheeling from a halt
47 Wheeling forward by Sub-diviſions from line
48 Wheeling backward by ſub-diviſions from line
49 Marching on an alignement, in open column of ſub-diviſions
50 Wheeling into line from open column of Sub-diviſions
51 In open column of Sub-diviſions, wheeling into an alignement
52 In open column of Sub-diviſions, wheeling into a new direction, on the moveable pivot
53 Countermarch by files
54 Wheeling on the center of the platoon

Obliqu

55 Oblique marching
56 Increafing and diminifhing the front of an open column, halted
57 Increafing and diminifhing the front of an open column on the march
58 The platoon in open column of Sub-divifions, to pafs a defile by breaking off files
59 Marching in quick time
60 Forming to the front from file
61 Forming from file to either flank
62 To form to either flank, from open column of Sub-divifions, or fections
63 The platoon moving to the front, to gain ground to a flank, by a marcn in echellon, by fections
64 From three ranks, forming in two ranks
65 From two ranks, forming in three ranks

End of Part II.

FORMATION OF THE COMPANY.

Pages.
When the company is to take open order, from close order - 2
When the company is to take close order, from open order - 3

Formation of the Battalion.

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PART I.

INSTRUCTION OF THE RECRUIT.

THE ſeveral heads of inſtruction for recruits are to be attended to, and followed, in the manner and order here ſet forth. It requires in the inſtructors to whom this duty is entruſted, and who are to be anſwerable for the execution of it, the moſt unremitting perſeverance, an accurate knowledge of the part each has to teach, and a clear and conciſe manner of conveying his inſtructions; but with a firmneſs that will command from men a perfect attention to the directions he is giving them. He muſt allow for the weak capacity of the recruit; be patient, not rigorous, where endeavour and good-will are evidently not wanting; quickneſs is not at firſt to be required, it is the reſult of much practice. If officers and inſtructors are not critically exact in their own commands, and in obſerving the execution of what is required from others, ſlovenlineſs muſt take place, labour be ineffectual, and the end propoſed will never be attained.

The recruit muſt be carried on progreſſively; he ſhould comprehend one thing before he proceeds to another.—In the firſt circumſtances of poſition; firelock, fingers, elbows, &c. are to be juſtly placed by the

instructor; when recruits are more advanced, they should not be touched; but from the example shown, and the directions prescribed, be taught to correct themselves when so admonished. Recruits should not be kept too long at any particular part of their exercise, so as to fatigue or make them uneasy; and marching without arms should be much intermixed with the firelock instruction.—Fife, or music, must on no account be used; but the recruit is to be confirmed by habit alone in that cadence of step which he is afterwards to maintain in his march to the enemy, in spite of every variety of noise and circumstance that may tend to derange him.

In the manner hereafter prescribed, must each recruit be trained singly, and in squad; nor until he is steadied in these, and in other points of his duty, is he to be allowed to join the battalion; for one aukward man, imperfect in his march, or whose person is distorted, will derange his division, and of course operate on the battalion and line, in a still more consequential manner.—Every soldier, on his return from a long absence, must be redrilled before he is permitted to act in the ranks of his company.

Remarks upon the necessity, utility, or application of what is hereafter prescribed, are as much as possible avoided in the first and second parts: such remarks properly belong to the third, or battalion part, with the principles of whose movements it must be supposed an instructor is sufficiently acquainted.

WITHOUT ARMS.

I. *Poſition of the Soldier.*

THE equal ſquareneſs of the ſhoulders and body to the front is the firſt and great principle of the poſition of a ſoldier.—The heels muſt be in a line, and cloſed.—The knees ſtraight, without ſtiffneſs.—The toes a little turned out, ſo that the feet may form an angle of about 60 degrees.—Let the arms hang near the body, but not ſtiff, the flat part of the hand and little finger touching the thigh; the thumbs as far back as the ſeams of the breeches:—the elbows and ſhoulders to be kept back;—the belly rather drawn in, and the breaſt advanced, but without conſtraint;—the body upright, but inclining forward, ſo that the weight of it principally bears on the fore part of the feet; the head to be erect, and neither turned to the right nor left.

The poſition in which a ſoldier ſhould move, determines that in which he ſhould ſtand ſtill.—Too many methods cannot be uſed to ſupple the recruit, and baniſh the air of the ruſtic.—But that exceſs of ſetting up, which ſtiffens the perſon, and tends to throw the body backward inſtead of forward, is contrary to every true principle of movement, and muſt therefore be moſt carefully avoided.

The words on the margin, which are printed in *Italics*, are the words of command to be given by the inſtructor.

II. *Standing at Eaſe.*

Commands given by the inſtructor.

Stand at Eaſe. ON the words *Stand at Eaſe*, the right foot is to be drawn back about ſix inches, and the greateſt part of the weight of the body brought upon it; the left knee a little bent; the hands brought together before the body; but the ſhoulders to be kept back, and ſquare; the head to the front, and the whole attitude without conſtraint.

Attention. On the word *Attention*, the hands are to fall ſmartly down the outſide of the thighs; the right heel to be brought up in a line with the left; and the proper unconſtrained poſition of a ſoldier immediately reſumed.

When ſtanding at eaſe for any conſiderable time in cold weather, the men may be permitted, by command, to move their limbs, but without quitting their ground, ſo that upon the word *Attention*, no one ſhall have materially loſt his dreſſing in the line.

III. *Eyes to the Right.*

Eyes Right. ON the words, *Eyes to the Right*, glance the eyes to the right, with the ſlighteſt turn poſſible of the head.—At the words,

Eyes Left. *Eyes to the Left*, caſt the eyes in like manner to the left.—On the words, *Eyes to the*

Eyes Front *Front*, the look, and head, are to be directly to the front, the habitual poſition of the ſoldier.

These

Theſe motions are only uſeful on the wheeling of diviſions, or when dreſſing is ordered after a halt; and particular attention muſt be paid in the ſeveral turnings of the eyes, to prevent the ſoldier from moving his body, which ſhould be preſerved perfectly ſquare to the front.

IV. *The Facings.*

IN going through the facings, the left heel never quits the ground; the body muſt rather incline forward, and the knees be kept ſtraight.

N^o of Mo.		
2	1ſt. Place the hollow of the right foot ſmartly againſt the left heel, keeping the ſhoulders ſquare to the front. 2d. Raiſe the toes, and turn to the right on both heels.	*To the Right-face.*
2	1ſt. Place the right heel againſt the hollow of the left foot, keeping the ſhoulders ſquare to the front. 2d. Raiſe the toes, and turn to the left on both heels.	*To the Left-face.*
3	1ſt. Place the ball of the right toe againſt the left heel, keeping the ſhoulders ſquare to the front. 2d. Raiſe the toes, and turn to the right about on both heels. 3d. Bring the right foot ſmartly back in a line with the left.	*To the Right about-face.*
3	1ſt. Place the right heel againſt the ball of the left foot, keeping the ſhoulders ſquare to the front. 2d. Raiſe the toes, and turn to the left-about on both heels. 3d. Bring up the right foot ſmartly in a line with the left.	*To the Left about-face.*

The greatest precision must be observed in these facings; for if they are not exactly executed, a body of men, after being properly dressed, will lose their dressing, on every small movement of facing.

V. *Position in Marching.*

March. IN marching, the soldier must maintain as much as possible the position of the body, as directed in Section I. He must be well balanced on his limbs. His arms and hands, without stiffness, must be kept steady by his sides, and not suffered to vibrate. He must not be allowed to stoop forward, still less to lean back. His body must be kept square to the front, and thrown rather more forward in marching than when halted, that it may accompany the movement of the leg and thigh, which movement must spring from the haunch. The ham must be stretched, but without stiffening the knee. The toe a little pointed, and kept near the ground, so that the shoe-soles may not be visible to a person in front. The head to be kept well up, straight to the front, and the eyes not suffered to be cast down. The foot, without being drawn back, must be placed flat on the ground.

VI. *Ordinary Step.*

THE length of each pace, from heel to heel, is 30 inches, and the recruit must be taught to take 75 of these steps in a minute,

minute, without tottering, and with perfect ſteadineſs.

The *ordinary* ſtep being the pace on all occaſions whatever, unleſs greater celerity be particularly ordered, the recruit muſt be carefully trained, and thoroughly inſtructed in this moſt eſſential part of his duty, and perfectly made to underſtand, that he is to maintain it for a long period of time together, both in line and in column, and in rough as well as ſmooth ground, which he may be required to march over. This is the ſloweſt ſtep which a recruit is taught, and is alſo applied in all movements of parade.

VII. *The Halt.*

ON the word *halt*, let the rear foot be brought upon a line with the advanced one, ſo as to finiſh the ſtep which was taken when the command was given. *Halt.*

VIII. *Oblique Step.*

WHEN the recruit has acquired the regular length and cadence of the ordinary pace, he is to be taught the oblique ſtep. At the words, *To the Left Oblique—March*, without altering his perſonal ſquareneſs of poſition, he will, when he is to ſtep with his left foot, point, and carry it forward 19 inches, in the diagonal line, to the left, which gives about 13 inches to the ſide, and about 13 inches to the front. *To the Left, Oblique—March.*

On

On the word *Two*, he will bring his right foot 30 inches forward, so that the right heel be placed 13 inches directly before the left one. In this position he will pause, and on the word *Two*, continue to march, as before directed, by advancing his left foot 30 inches, pausing at each step till confirmed in his position; it being essentially necessary to take the greatest care that his shoulders be preserved square to the front. From the combination of these two movements, the general obliquity gained will amount to an angle of about 25 degrees. When the recruit is habituated to the lengths and directions of the step, he must be made to continue his march, without pausing, with firmness, and in the cadence of the ordinary pace, viz. 75 steps in the minute.

As all marching (the side-step excepted) invariably begins with the left foot, whether the obliquing commences from the halt, or on the march, the first diagonal step is taken by the leading foot of the side inclined to, when it comes to its turn, after the command is pronounced.

The squareness of the person, and the habitual cadenced step, in consequence, are the great directions of the oblique, as well as of the direct march.

Each recruit should be separately and carefully instructed in the principles of the foregoing eight sections of the drill. They form the basis of all military movements.

Three or four recruits will now be formed in one rank, at very open files, and instructed as follows.

IX.

IX. *Dreſſing when Halted.*

Dreſs.

DRESSING is to be taught equally by the left as by the right. On the word *Dreſs*, each individual will caſt his eyes to the point to which he is ordered to dreſs, with the ſmalleſt turn poſſible of the head, but preſerving the ſhoulders and body ſquare to their front. The whole perſon of the man muſt move as may be neceſſary, and bending backward or forward is not to be permitted. He muſt take ſhort, quick ſteps, thereby gradually and exactly to gain his poſition, and on no account be ſuffered to attempt it by any ſudden or violent alteration, which muſt infallibly derange whatever is beyond him. The faces of the men, and not their breaſts or feet, are the line of dreſſing. Each man is to be able juſt to diſtinguiſh the lower part of the face of the ſecond man beyond him.

In dreſſing, the eyes of the men are always turned to the Officer, who gives the word *Dreſs*; and who is poſted at the point by which the body halts; and who from that point corrects his men, on a point at, or beyond, his oppoſite flank.

The faults to be avoided, and generally committed by the ſoldier in dreſſing, are, paſſing the line; the head forward, and body kept back; the ſhoulders not ſquare; the head turned too much.

Two, or more men, being moved forward, or backward, a given number of paces, and placed in the new line, and direction,

rection, the following commands will be given.

By the *Right, forward—Dress.*
By the *Right, backward—Dress.*
By the *Left, forward—Dress.*
By the *Left, backward—Dress.*

As soon as the dressing is accomplished, the words, *Eyes Front*, will be given, that heads may be replaced, and remain square to the front.

No rank, or body, ought ever to be dressed, without the person on its flank appointed to dress it determining, or at least supposing, a line, on which the rank, or body, is to be formed, and for that purpose taking as his object the distant flank man, or a point beyond such flank, or a man thrown out on purpose;—dressing must then be made gradually, and progressively, from the fixed point, towards the distant flank one; and each man successively, and quickly, must be brought up into the true line, so as to become a new point from whence the person directing proceeds in the correction of the others; and he himself, when so directing, must take care that his person, or his eyes at least, be the true line, which he is then giving.

X. *Stepping out.*

Step out. THE squad marches as already directed in ordinary time. On the word *Step out*, the recruit must be taught to lengthen his step to 33 inches, by leaning forward a little, but without altering the cadence.

This

This ſtep is neceſſary when a temporary exertion in line, and to the front, is required; or when the rear diviſions of a column are to move up into line with the leading ones, and is applied both to ordinary and quick time.

XI. *Mark Time.*

ON the word *Mark Time*, the foot then advancing compleats its pace; after which the cadence is continued, without gaining any ground, but alternately throwing out the foot, and bringing it back ſquare with the other.—At the word *Ordinary Step*, the uſual pace of 30 inches will be taken. *Mark Time.* *Ordinary Step.*

This ſtep is neceſſary for marching in line, when any particular battalion is advanced, and has to wait for the coming up of others.

XII. *Stepping Short.*

ON the word *Step Short*, the foot advancing will finiſh its pace, and afterwards each recruit will ſtep as far as the ball of his toe, and no farther, until the word *Ordinary Step* be given, when the uſual pace of 30 inches is to be taken. *Step Short.* *Ordinary Step.*

This ſtep is uſeful when a momentary retardment of either a battalion in line, or of a diviſion in column, ſhall be required.

XIII.

XIII. *Changing the Feet.*

Change Feet.

TO change the feet in marching, the advancing foot complets its pace, and the ball of the other is brought up quickly to the heel of the advanced one, which inſtantly makes another ſtep forward, ſo that the cadence may not be loſt.

This may be required of an individual, who is ſtepping with a different foot from the reſt of his diviſion; in doing which he will in fact make two ſucceſſive ſteps with the ſame foot.

XIV. *The Side or Cloſing Step.*

THE ſide ſtep is performed from the halt in ordinary time, by the following commands:

Cloſe to the Right (a caution)—*March.*
Cloſe to the Left (a caution)—*March.*

Cloſe to the Right, March.

In cloſing to the right, on the word, *March*, eyes are turned to the right, and each man carries his right foot about 12 inches directly to his right (or if the ſides are cloſed, to his neighbour's left foot), and inſtantly brings up his left foot, till the heel touches his right heel; he then pauſes, ſo as to perform this movement in ordinary time, and proceeds to take the next ſtep in the ſame manner; the whole with perfect preciſion of time, ſhoulders kept ſquare, knees not bent, and in the true line on which the body is formed. At the word, *Halt*, the

Halt.

the whole halt, turn their eyes to the front, and are perfectly ſteady. (See XLIII.)

XV. *Back Step.*

THE BACK STEP is performed in the ordinary time and length of pace, from the halt, on the command, *Step back, March.* The recruit muſt be taught to move ſtraight to the rear, preſerving his ſhoulders ſquare to the front, and his body erect.—On the word, *Halt*, the foot in front muſt be brought back ſquare with the other. *Step back, March.* *Halt.*

A few paces only of the back ſtep can be neceſſary at a time.

XVI. *The Quick Step.*

THE cadence of the ordinary pace having become perfectly habitual to the recruits, they are now to be taught to march a quick time, which is 108 ſteps in a minute, each of 30 inches, making 270 feet in the minute.—The command *Quick, March*, being given with a pauſe between them; the word, *Quick*, is to be conſidered as a caution, and the whole to remain perfectly ſtill, and ſteady; on the word, *March*, they ſtep off with the left foot, keeping the body in the ſame poſture, and the ſhoulders ſquare to the front; the foot to be lifted off the ground, that it may clear any ſtones, or other impediments in the way, and to be thrown forward, and placed firm; the whole *Quick, March.*

of the ſole to touch the ground, and not the heel alone; the knees are not to be bent, neither are they to be ſtiffened, ſo as to occaſion fatigue, or conſtraint.—The arms to hang with eaſe down the outſide of the thigh; a ſmall motion to prevent conſtraint may be permitted; but not to ſwing out, and thereby occaſion the leaſt turn, or movement of the ſhoulder; the head is to be kept to the front, the body well up, and the utmoſt ſteadineſs to be preſerved.

This is the pace to be uſed in all *filings* of diviſions from line into column, or from column into line; and by battalion columns of manœuvre, when independently changing poſition.—It may occaſionally be uſed in the column of march of ſmall bodies, when the rout is ſmooth, and no obſtacles occur; but in the march in line of a conſiderable body, it is not to be required, and very ſeldom in a column of manœuvre; otherwiſe fatigue muſt ariſe to the ſoldier, and more time will be loſt by hurry and inaccuracy, than is attempted to be gained by quickneſs.

The word *March*, given ſingly, at all times denotes that *ordinary* time is to be taken; when the *quick march* is meant, that word will precede the other. The word *March* marks the beginning of movements from the *halt*; but is not given when the body is in previous motion.

XVII.

XVII. *The Quickeſt Step.*

THE *quickeſt time*, or *wheeling march*, is 120 ſteps of 30 inches each, or 300 feet in the minute.—The directions already given for the march in quick time relate equally to the march in quickeſt time.

This is applied chiefly to the purpoſe of wheeling, and is the rate at which all bodies accompliſh their *wheels*, the outward file ſtepping 33 inches whether the wheel is from line into column, during the march in column, or from column into line. In this *time* alſo ſhould diviſions double, and move up, when paſſing obſtacles in line, or when in the column of march, the front of diviſions is encreaſed, or diminiſhed.

Three or four recruits in one rank, with intervals of 12 inches between them, ſhould be practiſed in the different ſteps, that they may acquire a firmneſs and independence of movement.

Many different times of march muſt not be required of the ſoldier.—Theſe three may ſuffice, ORDINARY TIME (75 ſteps in the minute,) QUICK TIME (108 in the minute,) WHEELING, or QUICKEST TIME (120 in the minute).

PLUMMETS, which vibrate the required times of march in a minute, are of great utility, and can alone prevent or correct uncertainty of movement; they muſt be in poſſeſſion of, and conſtantly referred to by each inſtructor of a ſquad. The ſeveral lengths of plummets ſwinging the times of

the different marches in a minute, are as follows:

			In.	Hund.
Ordinary time, - - -	75	ſteps in the minute,	24	96
Quick time, - - - -	108	- - - - - - - -	12	3
Quickeſt or wheeling time	120	- - - - - - - -	9	80

A muſket ball ſuſpended by a ſtring which is not ſubject to ſtretch, and on which are marked the different required lengths, will anſwer the above purpoſe, is eaſily acquired, and ſhould be frequently compared with an accurate ſtandard in the adjutant's or ſerjeant-major's poſſeſſion.

Accurate diſtances of ſteps muſt alſo be marked out on the ground, along which the ſoldier ſhould be practiſed to march, and thereby acquire the juſt length of each.

Six or eight recruits will now be formed in a rank, at cloſe files, having a ſteady, well drilled ſoldier on their flank to lead,—and FILE MARCHING may be taught to them.

XVIII. *File Marching.*

THE recruits muſt firſt *face*, and then be inſtructed to cover each other exactly in file, ſo that the head of the man immediately before may conceal the heads of all the others in his front. The ſtricteſt obſervance of all the rules for marching is particularly neceſſary in marching by files, which is firſt to be taught at the *ordinary time*, and afterwards in *quick time*.

To the — face.

March.

On the word *March*, the whole are immediately to ſtep off together, gaining at the very firſt ſtep 30 inches, and ſo continuing each ſtep, without encreaſing the diſtance between

between each recruit, every man locking or placing his advanced foot on the ground, before the ſpot from whence his preceding man had taken up his,—no looking down, nor leaning backward, is to be ſuffered, on any pretence whatever,—the leader is to be directed to march ſtraight forward to ſome diſtant object given him for that purpoſe, and the recruits made to cover one another during the march, with moſt ſcrupulous exactneſs,—great attention muſt be paid to prevent them from marching with their knees bent, which they will be very apt to do at firſt, from the apprehenſion of treading upon the heels of thoſe before them.

XIX. *Wheeling of a ſingle Rank, in ordinary Time, from the Halt.*

AT the word, *To the Right Wheel*, the man on the right of the rank faces to the right; on the word *March*, they ſtep off together, the whole turning their eyes to the left (the wheeling flank,) except the man on the left of the rank, who looks inwards; and during the wheel becomes a kind of baſe line, for the others to conform to, and maintain the uniformity of front.—The outward wheeling man always lengthens his ſtep to 33 inches,—the whole obſerve the ſame time, but each man ſhortening his ſtep in proportion as he is nearer to the ſtanding flank on which the wheel is made,—during the wheel, the whole remain cloſed to the ſtanding flank; that is, they touch *Right wheel. March.*

 without

without incommoding their neighbour; nor must they stoop forward, but remain upright,—opening out from the standing flank is to be avoided; closing in upon it during the wheel, is to be resisted.—On the word, *Halt, Dress*, each man halts immediately, without jumping forward, or making any false movements.

Halt, Dress.

When the recruits are able to perform the wheel with accuracy in the *ordinary time*, they must be practised in wheeling in *quickest time*.

Nothing will tend sooner to enable the recruit to acquire the proper length of step, according to his distance from the pivot, than continuing the wheel without halting for several revolutions of the circle.

XX. *Wheeling of a single Rank, from the March.*

THE recruits are first to be taught to perform this wheeling at the *ordinary time*, and afterwards in the *quickest, or proper wheeling time*—the rank, marching to the front at the ordinary time, receives the word of command, *Right, Wheel*, the man on the right of the rank instantly halts, and faces to his right; the rest of the rank, turning their eyes to the wheeling flank (as directed in the preceding section), immediately change the step together to *wheeling time*; as soon as the portion of the circle to be wheeled is completed, the words *Halt, Dress*, will be given, (a pause of 2 or 3 seconds

Right, wheel.

Halt, Dress.

feconds may be made), and then, *March*, on which the whole rank fteps off together at the ordinary time. *March.*

XXI. *Wheeling backwards a fingle Rank.*

AT the word, *On your Right backwards, Wheel*, the man on the right of the rank faces to his left; at the word *March*, the whole ftep backward in wheeling time, dreffing by the outward wheeling man; thofe neareft the pivot man making their fteps extremely fmall, and thofe towards the wheeling man encreafing them as they are placed nearer to him.—The recruit in this wheel muft not bend forward, nor be fuffered to look down; but by cafting his eyes to the wheeling flank, preferve the dreffing of the rank.—On the word, *Halt*, the whole remain perfectly fteady, ftill looking to the wheeling flank till they receive the word, *Right, Drefs.* *On the right backwards, wheel. March. Halt. Right, Drefs.*

The recruits fhould be firft practifed to wheel backwards at the ordinary ftep; and at all times it will be neceffary to prevent them from hurrying the pace; an error foldiers are very liable to fall into, particularly in wheeling backwards; where large bodies wheel from line into column, this wheeling is neceffary to preferve the covering of pivot flanks, and the diftances of the divifions, which the line has broken into.

XXII. *Wheeling of a ſingle Rank on a moveable Pivot.*

IN wheeling on a moveable pivot, both flanks are moveable, and deſcribe concentric circles, round a point, which is removed a few paces from what would otherwiſe be the ſtanding flank; and eyes are all turned towards the directing pivot man, whether he is on the outward flank, or on the flank wheeled to.

When the wheel is to be made to the directing pivot flank, (ſuppoſe the left)—the rank marching at the ordinary pace, receives the word, *Right ſhoulders forward*; on which the pivot man, without altering either the time or length of his pace, continues his march on the circumference of the leſſer circle, and tracing out a conſiderable arch, on the principle of dreſſing, gradually brings round his rank to the direction required, without obliging the other flank, which is deſcribing the circumference of a larger circle, to too great hurry;—on the word, *Forward*, ſhoulders are ſquared, and the pivot marches direct to his front.

Right ſhoulders forward.

Forward.

When the directing pivot is on the outward flank, and has to deſcribe the circumference of the larger circle, on the word, *Left ſhoulders forward*, he will, without changing the time or length of his pace, gradually bring round the rank to the required direction, ſo as to enable the inward flank to deſcribe a ſimilar arch of a leſſer circle,

Left ſhoulders forward.

circle, concentric to the one he himſelf is moving on.—During both theſe wheels, the rank dreſſes to the proper pivot, and when he deſcribes the ſmaller circle of the wheel, the other flank, which has more ground to go over, will quicken its march, and ſtep out.—When the pivot deſcribes the greater circle of the wheel, the other flank, which has leſs ground to go over, will ſtep ſhorter, and gradually conform. In the firſt caſe, the recruit muſt be cautioned againſt opening out from the pivot; and, in the latter, from crowding on him.

The juſt performance of this mode of wheeling, depends ſo much on the directing pivot, that a well-drilled ſoldier ſhould, at firſt, be placed on the flank named, as the proper pivot, and changed occaſionally. It is uſed, when a column of march (in order to follow the windings of its route, changes its direction, in general, leſs than the quarter circle.

WITH ARMS.

XXIII. *Poſition of the Soldier.*

WHEN the firelock is given, and is ſhouldered, the perſon of the ſoldier remains in the poſition deſcribed (Section I.) except, that the wriſt of the left hand is turned out, the better to embrace the butt; the thumb alone is to appear in front, the four fingers to be under the butt, the left elbow

elbow is a little bent inwards, without being ſeparated from the body, or being more backward or forward than the right one.—The firelock is placed in the hand, not on the middle of the fingers, and carried in ſuch a manner, that it ſhall not riſe, advance, or keep back, one ſhoulder more than the other; the butt muſt therefore be forward, and as low as can be permitted without conſtraint; the fore part nearly even with that of the thigh, and the hind part of it preſſed by the wriſt againſt the thigh: the piece muſt be kept ſteady and firm before the hollow of the ſhoulder; ſhould the firelock be drawn back, or attempted to be carried high, in that caſe, one ſhoulder will be advanced, the other kept back, and the upper part of the body diſtorted, and not placed ſquare with reſpect to the limbs.

Each recruit muſt be ſeparately taught the poſition of ſhouldered arms, and not allowed to proceed until he has acquired it.

XXIV. *Different Motions of the Firelock.*

THE following motions of the firelock will be taught and practiſed as here ſet down, until each recruit is perfect in them; they being neceſſary for the eaſe of the ſoldier in the courſe of exerciſe.

Supporting

As mentioned in the firelock exercise. { Supporting arms.
Carrying arms.
Ordered, at eaſed arms.
Standing at eaſe.
Attention.
Shouldering.
Trailing arms.
Shouldering from the trail.

Theſe motions are neceſſary for the eaſe of the ſoldier in the courſe of exerciſe.

The recruit muſt be accuſtomed to *carry* his arms for a conſiderable time together; it is moſt eſſential he ſhould do ſo, and not to be allowed to *ſupport* them ſo often as is practiſed, under the idea that long *carrying* them is a poſition of too much conſtraint.

XXV. *Attention in forming the ſquad.*

WHEN the SQUAD or diviſion (conſiſting of from ſix to eight files) is ordered to *fall in*, each man, with carried arms, will as quick as poſſible take his place in his rank, beginning from the flank to which he is ordered to form; he will dreſs himſelf in line by the rule already given; aſſume the ordered poſition of a ſoldier, and ſtand perfectly ſtill, and ſteady, until ordered to ſtand at eaſe, or that ſome other command be given him.—Attention muſt be paid that the files are correctly cloſe; that the men in the rear ranks cover well, looking their file leaders in the middle of the neck;— *Fall in.*

That

That the ranks have their proper diſtance of one pace (30 inches) from each other;—That all the ranks are equally well dreſſed; That the men do not turn their heads to the right, or left; and that each man has the proper unconſtrained attitude of a ſoldier.

XXVI. *Open Order.*

Rear ranks take open order.

THE recruits being formed in three ranks at cloſe order, on the word, *Rear ranks, take open order*, the flank men on the right and left of the center and rear ranks, ſtep briſkly back, one and two paces reſpectively, face to their right, and ſtand covered, to mark the ground on which each rank is to halt, and dreſs to open order; every other individual remains ready to move.—On the word, *March*, the dreſſers front, and the center and rear ranks fall back one and two paces, each dreſſing by the right, the inſtant it arrives on the ground.

March.

XXVII. *Cloſe Order.*

Rear ranks take cloſe order.

ON the word, *Rear ranks take cloſe order*, the whole remain perfectly ſteady; at the word, *March*, the ranks cloſe within one pace, marching one and two paces, and then halting.

XXVIII. *Manual Exerciſe.*

ACCORDING to Regulation.

XXIX.

XXIX. *Platoon Exercise.*

ACCORDING to Regulation.

XXX. *Firings.*

WHEN the recruits have acquired the management of their arms, and are perfect in the motions of the manual and platoon exercises, they will be instructed at closed ranks in firing.

Direct to their front.
Obliquity to the right and left.
By files.

XXXI. *Marching to the Front, and Rear.*

THE squad, or division, is to be particularly well dressed; files correct; arms carried; the rear ranks covering exactly, and each individual to have his just attitude and position, before the squad is ordered to move.—The march will be made by the right or left flank, and a proper trained man will therefore conduct it.—The word *Squad*, or *Division*, may be given as a caution; and at the word *March*, each man steps forward a full pace.—The recruit must not turn his head to the hand to which he is dressing, as a turning of the shoulders would undoubtedly follow.—His elbows must be kept steady, without constraint; if they are opened from his body, the next *Caution.* *March.*

C man

man muſt be preſſed upon ; if they are cloſed, there ariſes an improper diſtance, which muſt be filled up; in either caſe, waving on the march will take place, and muſt therefore be avoided.

The going to the right or left about, in march, is not to be at firſt practiſed : but the ſquad is to *halt, front* by command, and then *March.*

As the being able to march ſtraight forward is of the utmoſt conſequence, he who commands at the drill, will take the greateſt pains in making his ſquad do ſo ;—For this purpoſe he will often go behind his ſquad, or diviſion, place himſelf behind the flank file by which the ſquad is to move in marching, and take a point, or object, exactly in front of that file ; he will then command *March*, and remaining in his place, he will direct the advance of the ſquad, by keeping the flank file always in a line with the object.—It is alſo from behind, that one ſooneſt perceives the leaning back of the ſoldier, and the bringing forward or the falling back of a ſhoulder ; faults which ought inſtantly to be rectified, as productive of the worſt conſequence in a line, when one man, by bringing forward a ſhoulder, may change the direction of the march, and oblige the wing of a battalion to run, in order to keep dreſſed.

In ſhort, it is impoſſible to labour too much at making the ſoldier march ſtraight forward, keeping always the ſame front as when he ſet off.—This is effected by moving ſolely from the haunches, keeping the body ſteady,

ſteady, the ſhoulders ſquare, and the head to the front; and will without difficulty be attained, by a ſtrict attention to the rules given for marching, and a careful obſervance of an equal length of ſtep, and an equal cadence, or time of march.

Changing from *ordinary* to *quick time*, and from *quick* to *ordinary time*, muſt always be preceded by a previous, but inſtantaneous *halt*; although this may not appear eſſential for the movements of the ſquad, diviſion, or battalion, it is abſolutely ſo for thoſe of a larger body, and is therefore required in ſmall ones.

Turning on the march, in order to continue it, though inaccurate, and improper, for a large body, is neceſſary, and muſt often be allowed, in the movements of ſmall diviſions in file, or front, when connected with others in line, or column.

As helps for fixing the true time, or cadence of the march, the plummet muſt be frequently reſorted to; the words, *left*, *right*, may when neceſſary be repeated ſlowly for ordinary time, and quicker for quick time. —Strong taps of the drum, if in juſt time, and regulated by the plummet, may be allowed to be given immediately before the word *March*, thereby to imprint the required meaſure on the mind of the recruit; but they are on no account, or in any ſituation, to be given during the march.

XXXII. *Open and Cloſe Order, on the March.*

Rear ranks take open order.

THE ſquad, when moving to the front in ordinary time, receives the word, *Rear ranks take open order*, on which the rank continues its march, without altering the pace, and the center and rear ranks mark the time, viz. the center once, and ſteps off at the ſecond ſtep: the rear rank ſtepping off on the third pace.

Rear ranks take cloſe order.

On the word, *Rear ranks take cloſe order*, the center and rear ranks ſtep nimbly up to cloſe order, and inſtantly reſume the pace, at which the front rank has continued to march.

XXXIII. *Marching in File to a Flank.*

THE accuracy of the march in file is ſo eſſential in all deployments into line, and in the internal movements of the diviſions of the battalion, that the ſoldier cannot be too much exerciſed to it. The whole battalion, as well as its diviſions, is required to make this flank movement, without the leaſt opening out, or lengthening of the file, and in perfect cadence, and equality of ſtep.

To the — face. March.

After *facing*, and at the word *March*, the whole ſquad ſteps off at the ſame inſtant, each replacing, or rather over ſtepping the foot of the man before him; that is, the right foot of the ſecond man comes within the left

left foot of the firſt, and thus of every one; more or leſs overlapping, according to the cloſeneſs or openneſs of the files, and the length of ſtep. The front rank will march ſtraight along the given line, each ſoldier of that rank muſt look along the necks of thoſe before him, and never to right or left; otherwiſe a waving of the march will take place, and of courſe the loſs, and extention of line, and the diſtance, whenever the body returns to its proper front.—The center and rear ranks muſt look to, and regulate themſelves by their leaders of the front rank, and always dreſs in their file. Although file marching is in general made in quick time; yet it muſt alſo be practiſed, and made in ordinary time. The ſame poſition of feet, as above, takes place in all marching in front, where the ranks are cloſe and locked up.

With a little attention and practice, this mode of marching, which appears ſo difficult, will be found by every ſoldier to be eaſier than the common method of marching by files, when on every halt the rear muſt run up to gain the ground it has unneceſſarily loſt.

XXXIV. *Wheeling in File.*

THE ſquad, when marching in file, muſt be accuſtomed to wheel its head to either flank; each file following ſucceſſively, without loſing, or increaſing diſtance.—On this occaſion, each file makes its ſeparate wheel, on a pivot moveable in a very ſmall

degree, but without altering its time of march, or the eyes of the rear ranks being turned from their front rank.—The front rank men, whether they are pivot men, or not, muſt keep up to their diſtance, and the wheeling men muſt take a very extended ſtep, and loſe no time in moving on.

XXXV. *Oblique marching in Front.*

WHEN the ſquad is marching in front, and receives the word, *To the right, oblique*; each man, the firſt time he raiſes the right foot, will, inſtead of throwing it ſtraight forward, carry it in the diagonal direction, as has been already explained in Sect. VIII. taking care not to alter the poſition of his body, ſhoulders, or head.—The greateſt attention is to be paid to the ſhoulders of every man in the ſquad, that they remain parallel to the line on which they firſt were placed, and that the right ſhoulders do not fall to the rear, which they are very apt to do in obliquing to the right, and which immediately changes the direction of the front.—On the word *forward*, the incline ceaſes, and the whole march forward.—In obliquing to the left, the ſame rules are to be obſerved, with the difference of the left leg going to the left, and attention to keeping up the left ſhoulder.

Right, Oblique.

Forward.

The ſame inſtructions that are given for ordinary time, ſerve alſo for quick time; but this movement, though it may be made by

by a ſquad, or diviſion, cannot be required from a larger body.*

Obliquing to the right is to be practiſed ſometimes with the eyes to the left; and obliquing to the left, with the eyes to the right; as being abſolutely neceſſary on many occaſions; for if one of the battalions of a line in advancing be ordered to oblique to the right, or to the left, the eyes muſt ſtill continue turned towards its center.

XXXVI. *Oblique Marching in File.*

IN obliquing to the right, or left, by files, the center and rear rank men will continue looking to their leaders of the front rank.—Each file is to conſider itſelf as a rank entire, and is to preſerve the ſame front, and poſition of the ſhoulders, during the oblique, as before it began—This being a very uſeful movement, the recruits are to be often practiſed in it.

XXXVII. *Wheeling forward from the Halt.*

THE directions already given for the wheeling of a ſingle rank (ſee Sect. XIX.) are to be ſtrictly attended to in the wheel of the ſquad.—On the word *Right* (*or left*) *wheel*, the rear ranks, if at one pace diſtance, lock up. At the word *March*, the whole ſtep together in the quickeſt time,

Right wheel. *March.*

and

and the rear ranks, during the wheel, incline so as to cover their proper front rank

Halt. men.—At the word *Halt*, the whole remain perfectly steady.

XXXVIII. *Wheeling Backward.*

THE squad must be much practised in wheeling backward in the quickest time—In this wheel the rear ranks may preserve their distance of one pace from each other.—Great attention should be paid to prevent the recruits from fixing their eyes on the ground. (Vide Sect. XXI.)

XXXIX. *Wheeling from the March on a halted, and moveable Pivot.*

THE directions for wheeling on a *halted*, and on a *moveable* pivot, have been already given in Sects. XX. XXII. The squad should now be practised in both, untill the recruits are thoroughly confirmed in those movements.

XL. *Stepping out.—Stepping short.—Marking the time.—Changing the Feet.—The Side Step.—Stepping back.*

THE squad must likewise be practised in *stepping out*, *stepping short*, *marking* *the*

the time, *changing the feet*, *the ſide ſtep*, and *ſtepping back*, the inſtructions for which have been fully detailed in the foregoing ſections.

It cannot be too ſtrongly inculcated, or too often recollected, that upon the correct *equality* of *march*, eſtabliſhed and practiſed by all the troops of the ſame army, every juſt movement and manœuvre depend.—When this is not attended to, diſunion, and confuſion, muſt neceſſarily take place, on the conjunction of ſeveral battalions in corps; although, when taken individually, each may be, in moſt reſpects, well trained. It is in the original inſtruction of the recruit, and the ſquad, that this great point is to be laboured at, and attained; the *time* and *length* of ſtep, on all occaſions, are preſcribed.—The TIME is infallibly aſcertained by the frequent corrections of the plummet, which, when ſo applied, will ſoon give to each man that habitual meaſure ſo much deſired; and therefore every driller muſt have it conſtantly in his hand; and as it has been already obſerved, before any ſquad, or larger body, is put in march, 5 or 6 ſtrong taps of the drum may be given, in exact time as regulated by the plummet, which will imprint the true meaſure on each ear, and prepare for taking an accurate ſtep at the word *March*.—The length of ſtep is only acquired by repeated trial, and therefore, before the recruit, or ſquad, is put in motion, each inſtructor ſhould aſcertain the ſpace on which he is to drill his men. He will therefore (ſuppoſing that he

himſelf

himſelf is accurate in his paces, and that there is ground for that purpoſe) mark out an oblong ſquare, of forty paces by 20 or 30, the corners of which he will aſcertain by halberts, ſtones, or in any other viſible manner; along the ſides of this figure he will march the pivot flank of this ſquad, making correct wheels and halts at the angles.—The time of march being ſo exactly aſcertained, he will then ſee, that the ſides of the oblong are gone over at the known number of ſteps; and if there be any inaccuracy, he will lengthen or ſhorten the ſtep, till the ſquad marches with the utmoſt preciſion; every man preſerving his juſt poſition, and all the other indiſpenſible attentions in marching being ſtrictly obſerved.—Where there is a ſufficiency of *ground*, the ſquads will occaſionally march over greater ſpaces, but the diſtance ſhould in the ſame manner be exactly aſcertained, ſo that there may be no doubt as to the true length of the ſtep.—In proportion to the ſtrength of ſquads or drills, one or more formed ſoldiers ſhould accompany each, to march on the flank, give diſtances, and, in other points, to regulate the motions of the drill.

End of Part I.

PART

PART II.

Of the Platoon or Company.

XLI. *Formation of the Platoon.*

THE recruit being thoroughly grounded in all the preceding parts of the drill, is now to be inſtructed in the movements of the platoon, as a more immediate preparation for his joining the battalion : for this purpoſe, from 10 to 20 files are to be aſſembled, formed, and told off in the following manner as a company in the battalion.

The platoon FALLS IN in three ranks at close order, with ſhouldered firelocks ; the files lightly touching, but without crouding ; each man will then occupy a ſpace of about 22 inches.—The commander of the platoon takes poſt on the right of the front rank, covered by a ſerjeant in the rear rank.—Two other ſerjeants will form a fourth or ſupernumerary rank, three paces from the rear rank. Falls in.

The platoon will be told off into ſubdiviſions, and, if of ſufficient ſtrength, into four ſections ; but as a ſection ſhould never be leſs than five files, it will often happen that, for the purpoſe of march, three ſections only can be formed.

The

The four beſt trained ſoldiers are to be placed in the front rank, on the right and left of each ſub-diviſion.

When thus formed, the platoon will be practiſed in

Opening, and
Cloſing of } Ranks. (Sect. 26 and 27.)

Dreſſing { to the front,
to the rear,
in an oblique direction, } by the right, and left;

and be exerciſed in the ſeveral motions of the firelock, as have been ſhewn in the preceding part.

Cloſe order is the chief and primary order in which the battalion, and its parts, at all times aſſemble, and form.—Open order is only regarded as an exception from it, and occaſionally uſed in ſituations of parade and ſhow.—In cloſe order, the rear ranks are cloſed up to within one pace; the length of which is to be taken from the heels of one rank to the heels of the next rank. In open order, they are two paces diſtant from each other.

In order to diſtinguiſh the words of command given by the inſtructor of the drill (who repreſents the commander of the battalion), from thoſe given by the diviſions, the commands of the former are in CAPITAL Letters, thoſe of the latter in *Italic*.

XLII.

XLII. *Marching to the Front.*

IN the drill of the platoon, the perſon inſtructing muſt always conſider it as a company in battalion, and regulate all its movements upon that principle: he will therefore, before he puts it in motion to front, or rear, indicate which flank is to direct, by giving the word, EYES RIGHT or EYES LEFT; and then MARCH.—Should the right be the directing flank, the commander of the platoon himſelf will fix on objects to march upon, in a line truly perpendicular to the front of the platoon; and when the left flank is ordered to direct, he and his covering ſerjeant will ſhift to the left of the front rank, and take ſuch objects to march upon. To MARCH on one object only, and to preſerve a ſtraight line, is an operation not to be depended on; the conductor of the platoon, before the word MARCH is given, will therefore endeavour to remark ſome diſtinct object on the ground, in his own front, and perpendicular to the directing flank; he will then obſerve ſome nearer and intermediate point in the ſame line, ſuch as a ſtone, tuft of graſs, &c. theſe he will move upon with accuracy, and, as he approaches the neareſt of thoſe points, he muſt from time to time chuſe freſh ones, in the original direction, which he will by this means preſerve, never having fewer than two ſuch points to move upon. If no object in the true line can be aſcertained, his own ſquareneſs of perſon muſt determine the direction of the march.

Eyes right, March.

A perfon placed in the rear of a body can, more readily than if placed in its front, determine the line which is perpendicular to fuch front; and could we fuppofe ranks and files moft perfectly correct, the prolongation of each file would be a perpendicular to the front of the body.

As the *March* of every body, except in the cafe of inclining, is made on lines perpendicular to its then front, each individual compofing that body muft in his perfon be placed, and remain perfectly fquare to the given line; otherwife he will naturally and infenfibly move in a direction perpendicular to his own perfon, and thereby open out, or clofe in, according to the manner in which he is turned from the true point of his march. If the diftortion of a fingle man operates in this manner, and all turnings of the head do fo diftort him, it may be eafily imagined what that of feveral will occafion, each of whom is marching on a different front, and whofe lines of direction are croffing each other.

Accuracy and fquarenefs of pofition, the equality of cadence and ftep, the light touch of the files, which is never to be relinquifhed, juft diftances, and true lines of movement, will give, without apparent conftraint, the head being turned, or the leaft trouble taken in dreffing, the moft decifive exactnefs in the marches, and operations, of the largeft bodies.

The platoon, during its march in line, will occafionally be ordered to

Step

Step out,	vide Sect.	10
Mark time,	———	11
Step ſhort,	———	12
Open and cloſe ranks,	———	32
Oblique,	———	35

XLIII. *The Side Step.*

THE *ſide* or *cloſing ſtep*, muſt alſo be frequently practiſed; it is very neceſſary, and uſeful on many occaſions, when halted, and when a very ſmall diſtance is to be moved to either flank:—As, for inſtance, to open, or cloſe files; to join one diviſion to, or open it from another; to regain an interval in line; to move a whole battalion, or parade, 20 or 30 paces to a flank; to regulate diſtances between cloſe columns, before deploying:—alterations made in this manner are imperceptible from the front, and better made, than by facing, and file marching: the words of command muſt be decided, and ſtrong.

When the whole platoon is to cloſe, at the word, TO THE RIGHT CLOSE, the platoon officer takes one ſtep to the front, and inſtantly faces about, the covering ſerjeant replacing him; on the word, MARCH, the whole move together agreeably to the directions (in Sect. 14.) On the word, HALT, the platoon officer reſumes his place, having ſtepped in the ſame manner as the men, but fronting them, and thereby aſſiſted in preſerving the direction.

To the right cloſe.

March.

Halt.

XLIV. *The Back Step.*

Step back March. THE platoon muſt be accuſtomed from the halt, at the words, STEP BACK, MARCH, to ſtep back any ordered number of paces in the ordinary time and length, as it is an operation that may be frequently required from a battalion.

XLV. *File Marching.*

IN marching by files, the commander of the platoon will lead the front rank; therefore, when the movement is by the left, on the word, TO THE LEFT FACE, he, and Left face. his covering ſearjeant, will inſtantly ſhift to the left flank of the platoon; at the word, Quick March. QUICK MARCH, the whole ſtep off together, (vide Sect. 18.); and on the word, *Halt* *Halt.* *Front.* *Front*, the leader, and his ſerjeant, will return to their poſts on the right.

XLVI. *Wheeling from a Halt.*

IN wheeling either forward or backward from a halt, the commander of the platoon, on the word, RIGHT OR LEFT WHEEL, Right Wheel, March. moves out, and places himſelf one pace in front of the center of his platoon; during the wheel, he turns towards his men, and inclines towards that flank which has been named as the directing, or pivot one, giving the word, *Halt*, *Dreſs*, when his wheeling *Halt.* *Dreſs.* man has juſt completed the required degree of

of wheel: he then ſquares his platoon, but without moving what was the ſtanding flank, and takes his poſt on the now directing flank.

XLVII. *Wheeling forward by ſub-diviſions from Line.*

ON the word, BY SUB-DIVISIONS TO THE RIGHT WHEEL, the commander of the platoon places himſelf one pace in front of the center of the right ſubdiviſion, at the ſame time the men on the right of the front rank of each ſubdiviſion face to the right. By ſubdiviſions, to the right wheel.

At the word *March*, each ſub-diviſion ſteps off in wheeling time, obſerving the directions given (in Sect. 19. and 37.) The commander of the platoon turning towards the men of the leading ſubdiviſion, and inclining to its left (the proper pivot flank), gives the word, *Halt*, *Dreſs*, for both ſub-diviſions, as his wheeling man is taking the laſt ſtep that finiſhes the wheel ſquare; and inſtantly poſts himſelf on the left, the pivot flank.—The ſerjeant coverer, during the wheel, goes round by the rear, and takes poſt on the pivot flank of the ſecond ſub-diviſion.—It is to be obſerved, that the commander of the platoon invariably takes poſt with the leading ſub-diviſion; therefore, when the platoon wheels by ſub-diviſions to the left, the commander of the platoon moves out to the center of the left ſub-diviſion, and during the wheel in- March. *Halt.* *Dreſs.*

clines towards the right, now become the proper pivot flank of the ſub-diviſions.

The proper pivot flank in column is that which, when wheeled up to, preſerves the diviſions of the line in the natural order, and to their proper front; the other may be called the *reverſe* flank.

In column, diviſions cover and dreſs to the proper pivot flank; to the left when the right is in front: and to the right when the left is in front.

XLVIII. *Wheeling backward by Sub-diviſions from Line.*

THE platoon will alſo break into open column of ſubdiviſions by wheeling backwards.—When the right is intended to be in front; at the word, BY SUB-DIVISIONS ON YOUR LEFT, BACKWARD WHEEL, the commander of the platoon moves out briſkly, and places himſelf in front of the center of the right ſub-diviſion.—The man on the left of the front rank of each ſub-diviſion at the ſame time faces to the right.

By ſub-diviſions on your left backward wheel.

On the word, MARCH, each ſub-diviſion wheels backward in quickeſt time, as directed in Sect. 21, and Sect. 38. During the wheel, the commander of the platoon turns towards his men, inclining at the ſame time to the left, or pivot flank, and on compleating the wheel, gives the word, *Halt*, *Dreſs*, to both diviſions: he, and his covering ſerjeant, then place themſelves on the left flanks of their ſub-diviſions.

March.

Halt. Dreſs.

It

It may be considered as a rule almost general (the reasons for which are given in the following part), that all wheels of the battalion, or line, (when halted, and when the divisions do not exceed 16, or 18 files,) into column, should be backward.—And all wheels from column into line forward.—The only necessary exceptions seem to be in narrow ground, where there is not room for such wheels.

XLIX. *Marching on an Alignement, in open Column of sub-divisions.*

THE platoon having wheeled backwards by sub-divisions from line, (as directed in the foregoing Section) and a distant marked object in the prolongation of the two pivot flanks being taken; the commander of the platoon, who is now on the pivot flank of the leading sub-division, immediately fixes on his intermediate points to march on (See Sect. 42.) On the word, MARCH, given by the instructor of the drill, both divisions step off at the same instant; the leader of the first division marching with the utmost steadiness and equality of pace on the points he has taken; and the commander of the second division preserving the leader of the first in an exact line with the distant object; at the same time he keeps the distance necessary for forming from the preceding division; which distance is to be taken from the front rank.—These objects are in themselves sufficient to occupy the

whole

whole attention of the leaders of the two divisions; therefore they must not look to, nor endeavour to correct, the march of their divisions, which care must be entirely left to the non-commissioned officers of the supernumerary rank.

L. *Wheeling into Line from open Columns of Sub-divisions.*

THE platoon being in open column of sub-divisions, marching at the ordinary step on the alignement, receives the word HALT, from the instructor of the drill; both divisions instantly halt, and the instructor sees that the leaders of the divisions are correct on the line in which they have moved; he then gives the word (supposing the right of the platoon to be in front) by sub-divisions, TO THE LEFT WHEEL AND FORM; on which the commander of the platoon goes to the center of his sub-division, the two pivot men facing to their left exactly square with the alignement, and a serjeant runs out and places himself in a line with them, so as to mark the precise point at which the right flank of the leading sub-division is to halt, when it shall have compleated its wheel.—At the word, MARCH, the whole wheel up in quickest time; during the wheel, the commander of the platoon, turning towards his men, inclines to the wheeling flank, and gives the word, *Halt, Dress*, at the moment the wheel of of the division is compleating; the commander

Halt.

Left wheel and form.

March.

Halt; Dress.

mander of the platoon, if neceſſary, corrects the internal dreſſing of the platoon on the ſerjeant and pivot men; this dreſſing muſt be quickly made, and when done, the commander of the platoon gives the word, *Eyes front*, in a moderate tone of voice, and takes poſt in line, as directed in Sect. 41. *Eyes front.*

In all wheels of the diviſions of a column (either from the halt, or from the march), that are made on a halted pivot, the flank firelock of the front rank on the hand wheeled to, is ſuch pivot, not the officer who may be on that flank, and whoſe buſineſs it is to conform to it.

All wheelings by ſubdiviſions, or ſections from line into column, or from column into line, are performed on the word given by the commander of a battalion, when the whole of a battalion is at the ſame inſtant ſo to wheel, or on the word given by the commander of the company, when companies ſingly, or ſucceſſively ſo wheel: they are not to be repeated by the leaders of its diviſions.

LI. *In open Column of Sub-diviſions wheeling into an Alignement.*

THE platoon being in open column of ſub-diviſions, marching in ordinary time; when its leading diviſion arrives at the ground, where the wheel is to commence, it receives the word *Right, or left, wheel,* from its commander; on which the rear ranks, if at one pace diſtance, lock up; the flank front rank man alone halts, and faces into *Wheel.*

into the new direction, while the others quicken their pace to the wheeling time, and regulate their step by the outward hand (to which they have turned their eyes), until the wheel is compleated.—He then gives

Halt, Drefs. the word, *Halt, Drefs*, for his divifion to drefs on the hand it is to move by; and whenever the fecond divifion, which has continued to advance in ordinary time, arrives clofe to the wheeling point, he gives

March. his divifion the word, *March*, and moves on in ordinary time, fo as its rear rank does not occafion even a momentary ftop to the divifion behind it, which at that inftant receives

Wheel. Halt, Drefs. March. the word *Wheel*, then *Halt, Drefs*, and finally, *March*, whenever the leading divifion has gained its proper diftance from it.

The officer conducting the leading (and every other) divifion of the column in march, on any given point or object where it is to wheel into a new direction, and its proper pivot hand on a halted pivot, always ftops at that point, or object, clofe on his own outward hand, and gives the word, WHEEL, when the front rank of his divifion has taken ONE pace beyond fuch object; he thus allows fpace for his own perfon (when the wheel is finifhed) to move on clofe behind the new direction of march.

But if the proper pivot flank is to be the wheeling one, each commander of a divifion gives his word, *Wheel*, as he fucceffively arrives at fuch a diftance from the point on which he has moved, as that at the completion of the wheel, his divifion may *halt* perpendicular to the new line, but with the given

given point of courſe, behind the proper pivot, and that he alſo in his own perſon be on the new direction, prepared to give his word, *March*, and to proceed.

The rear ranks, if at one pace diſtance, muſt cloſe up at the word, *Wheel*, and during the wheel they incline, ſo as to cover their proper front rank men.

The ſubdiviſions muſt take care that they continue their march correctly upon, and wheel exactly at, the point where the leading one wheeled, and that they do not ſhift to either flank, which without much attention they are apt to do.

In this manner the ſub-diviſions ſucceed each other: and if the words of command be juſtly given; no ſtop made on arriving at the wheeling point; the wheels performed at an increaſed time and ſtep; and the proper halt, dreſſing, and pauſe, be made after the wheel; no extenſion of the column will take place, but the juſt diſtances between the diviſions will be preſerved.

The officer conducting the directing flank of a diviſion may during the wheel be advanced one or two paces before it, and remain ſo, facing to the flank, that he may the more critically be enabled to give his word, *Halt*; at which inſtant, he will again place himſelf on the flank, ready to judge his diſtance, and to give the word, *March*.

LII. *In Open Columns of Sub-divisions, wheeling into a new Direction on a moveable Pivot.*

THE commander of the leading sub-division, when at a due distance from the intended new direction, will give the word *Right*, or *Left shoulders forward* (vide Sect. 22.) and he himself carefully preserving the rate of march, without the least alteration of step or time, will begin to circle in his own person from the old into the new direction, so as not to make an abrupt wheel, or that either flank shall be stationary; the rest of his division, on the principle of dressing, will conform to the direction he is giving them; when this is effected, he will give the word *Forward.*—The leader of the second sub-division, when he arrives at the ground on which the first began to wheel, will in this manner follow the exact tract of the first, always preserving his proper distance from him.

Right shoulders forward.

Forward.

Thus, without the constraint of formal wheels, a column, when not confined on its flanks, may be conducted in all kinds of winding and changeable directions; for if the changes be made gradual and circling, and that the pivot leaders of divisions pursue their proper path, at the same uniform equal pace, the true distances of divisions will be preserved, which is the great regulating object on this occasion, and to which every other consideration must give way.

LIII. *Countermarch by Files.*

THE platoon, when it is to countermarch, muſt always be conſidered as a diviſion of a battalion in column; the inſtructor of the drill will therefore, previous to his giving the caution to countermarch, ſignify whether the right or left is ſuppoſed to be in front, that the commander of the platoon, and his covering ſerjeant, may be placed on the pivot flank, before ſuch caution is given, as it is an invariable rule in the countermarch of the diviſions of a column by files, that the facings be made from the flank, then the pivot one, to the one which is to become ſuch.

On the word, TO THE RIGHT, or LEFT FACE, — Face. the platoon faces, the commander of it immediately goes to the other flank, and his covering ſerjeant, advancing to the ſpot which he has quitted, faces to the right about.—At the word, QUICK MARCH, the Quick March. whole, except the ſerjeant coverer ſtep off together, the platoon officer wheeling ſhort round the rear rank (viz. to his right, if he has ſhifted to the right of the platoon, or to his left, if he be on the left of it); and proceeds, followed by the platoon in file, till he has conducted his pivot front rank man cloſe to his ſerjeant, who has remained immoveable; he then gives the words, *Halt*, *Front*, and *Dreſs*; ſquares, and cloſes his platoon on his ſerjeant, and then replaces him. *Halt, Front, Dreſs.*

All countermarches by files neceſſarily tend to an extenſion of the files; unity of

ſtep is therefore abſolutely indiſpenſible, and the greateſt care muſt be taken, that the wheel of each file be made cloſe, quick, and at an increaſed length of ſtep of the wheeling man, ſo as not to retard or lengthen out the march of the whole.

LIV. *Wheeling on the center of the Platoon.*

THE platoon muſt be accuſtomed to wheel upon its center, half backward, half forward, and to be pliable into every ſhape, which circumſtances can require of it; but always in order, and by a decided command.

The words of command are,

PLATOON ON YOUR CENTER TO THE	RIGHT, LEFT, RIGHT ABOUT, LEFT ABOUT,	WHEEL.

When the wheel to be made is to the right, or right about, the right half platoon is the one to wheel backward, and the left forward:—The reverſe will take place, when the wheel is to be made to the left, or
March. to the left about. On the word, MARCH, the whole move together in the quickeſt time, regulating by the two flank men, who during the wheel preſerve themſelves in a line with the center of the platoon;—as ſoon
Halt. as the required degree of wheel is perform-
Dreſs. ed, the commander of the platoon gives the word *Halt*, *Dreſs*, and inſtantly ſquares it from

from that flank, on which he himſelf is to take poſt.

LV. *Oblique Marching.*

THE inſtructor of the drill will have the oblique march frequently practiſed, in platoon, in ſub-diviſions and in file; (Vide Sect. XXXV. XXXVI.) He will ſee when in diviſions, that the rear ranks lock well up, and cover exactly;—when in file, that the exact diſtances are preſerved between the files;—and in both caſes, that the platoon, during its march, continues parallel to the poſition from which it commenced obliquing.

LVI. *Increaſing and diminiſhing the Front of an open Column halted.*

Increaſing.

THE platoon ſtanding in open column
of ſub-diviſions (ſuppoſe the right in
front), receives from the inſtructor of the Form pla-
drill, a caution to FORM PLATOON. The toon.
commander of the platoon inſtantly orders, *Rear divi-*
rear ſub-diviſion, to the left oblique, quick ſion, left,
march. When it has obliqued ſo as to open *oblique.*
its right flank, he gives the word, *Forward*; *Quick,*
and on its arriving in a line with the firſt *March.*
diviſion, he orders, *Halt, Dreſs*, and takes *Forward*
poſt on the left, the pivot flank of the pla- *Halt,*
toon. *Dreſs.*

Diminiſhing.

Form ſub-diviſions. *Left ſub-diviſion, Right face. Quick March.*

On the cautionary command from the inſtructor of the drill, to FORM SUB-DIVISIONS, the commander of the platoon orders, *Left ſub-diviſion to the right face;* and inſtantly on facing, the three leading files diſengage to the rear, the ſerjeant coverer running round to head them:—On the word, *Quick March*, the ſerjeant conducts the ſub-diviſion in file, to its proper diſtance in rear of the firſt ſub-diviſion.—The commander of the platoon having moved to the left flank of the leading diviſion, as ſoon as he ſees the rear file of the ſecond in a line with his own perſon, gives the words, *Halt, Front,* and *Left, Dreſs.* The ſerjeant coverer at the ſame time moves briſkly to his poſt on the left flank of the rear ſub-diviſion, and ſquares it.

Halt, front, left, dreſs.

It is to be obſerved as a general rule in diminiſhing the front of a column, by the doubling of ſub-diviſions, or ſections (whether the column be halted, or in motion) that the ſubdiviſion or ſection, on the reverſe flank, is the one behind with the other ſub-diviſions or ſections double:—thus, when the right is in front, the doubling will be in rear of the right diviſion; and, *vice verſa*, when the left is in front; by which means the column is at all times in a ſituation to form line to the flank, with its diviſions in their natural order, by ſimply wheeling up on the pivot flanks. And in encreaſing the front of a column, the rear ſub-

ſub-diviſions, or ſections, oblique to the hand the pivot flank is on, ſo that when the right is in front, the obliquing will be to the left; and the reverſe when the left is in front.

LVII. *Increaſing and diminiſhing the Front of an open Column on the March.*

Increaſing.

THE platoon marching at the ordinary time in open column of ſub-diviſions (ſuppoſe to the right in front), receives from the inſtructor of the drill the cautionary command, FORM PLATOON; the commander of the platoon inſtantly gives the word, *Left oblique—Quick march*; on which the rear ſub-diviſion obliques to the left, and as ſoon as its right flank is open receives the word, *Forward.*—When it gets up to the firſt ſub-diviſion (which has continued to march, with the utmoſt ſteadineſs, at the ordinary pace,) the commander of the platoon gives the words, *Halt*, *March*, and takes poſt on the pivot flank. Form platoon. *Left oblique, Quick march. Forward. Halt, March.*

Diminiſhing.

When the inſtructor of the drill gives the caution to FORM SUB-DIVISIONS, the commander of the platoon immediately orders, *Left ſub-diviſion, mark time*; this it does until its right one, which continues its march ſteadily at the ordinary pace, has Form ſub-diviſions. *Left ſub-diviſion, Mark time*

 cleared

Quick oblique. cleared the flank: he then orders the left sub-division, *Quick oblique*, and when he perceives that it has doubled properly behind the right one, he gives the word, *Forward*, on which it takes up the ordinary march, and follows at its due distance. *Forward.*

The same directions that apply to encreasing or diminishing by sub-divisions, apply equally by sections, which individually repeat the same operations.

The words for the sub-divisions, or sections, encreasing or diminishing the front of a column, are given by the commander of the company, and not repeated by those of its divisions.

Increasing and reducing the front of a column, is an operation that will frequently occur in the march of large bodies; and it is of the utmost importance that it is performed with exactness.—The instructor of the drill must therefore be particularly attentive that the leading sub-division continues its march at the regular time, and length of pace, and the exact distances between the divisions be accurately preserved.—During the operation, the ranks must be closed, arms carried, and the greatest attention required from each individual.

LVIII. *The Platoon in Open Column of Sub-Divifions to pafs a fhort Defile, by breaking off Files.*

THE platoon is fuppofed in open column of fub-divifions, with the right in front, marching in ordinary time; when the leading divifion is arrived within a few paces of the defile, it receives from the inftructor of the drill an order to break off a certain number of files, (fuppofe three.)—The commander of the leading divifion inftantly gives the words, *Three files on the left, right turn;* the named files immediately turn to their right, and wheel out in rear of the three adjoining files.—The commander of the fub-divifion himfelf clofes into the flank of the part formed.—When the fecond fub-divifion comes to the fpot where the firft divifion contracted itsfront, t will receive the fame words of command from its own leader, and will proceed in like manner.

Should it be required to diminifh the front of the column one or two files more, the commander of the leading divifion will, as before, order the defired number of files to *turn*; on which thofe already in the rear will incline to their right, fo as to cover the files now ordered to break off, and which are wheeling out in the manner already prefcribed. *Two files, right turn.*

In this movement, the files in the rear of the fub-divifions muft lock well up, fo as not

not to impede the march of the fucceeding divifion.

As the defile widens (or the inftructor of the drill fhall direct) the commander of the leading fub-divifion will order files to move up to the front, by giving the word, *One, two, or three files to the front*; on which the named files turn to their front (the left), and lengthening their pace, march up, file by file, to the front of their fub-divifion, and immediately refume their ordinary pace.—Thofe files which are to continue in the rear will oblique to the left, lengthening alfo their ftep, till they cover, and are clofed up to the three files on the left flank of their fub-divifion.

Three files to the front.

LIX. *Marching in Quick Time.*

THE platoon muft frequently by practifed to march in quick time, particularly in file, until the men have acquired the utmoft precifion in this movement, which is fo effential in all deployments from clofe column.—The platoon will alfo be occafionally be marched in front at the fame ftep, as it may be fometimes required from fmall bodies.

LX. *Forming to the front from File.*

THE platoon when marching in file may form to its front, either in fections, fub-divifions, or in platoon.—The right flank

flank being ſuppoſed to lead, on the word, HALT, FRONT, the platoon inſtantly halts, and faces to its left; the word is then given, BY SECTONS, SUB-DIVISIONS, OR PLATOON, ON YOUR LEFT BACKWARD WHEEL, and at the word, MARCH, the wheel ordered is made in the manner in Sect. XLVIII. Halt, front. Left backward wheel, March.

But in ſituations, where it may have been neceſſary to order an extenſion of files, (ſuch as will ſometimes occur in marching through the ſtreets of a town) a body thus moving, in order to avoid incorrect diſtances between the diviſions, may form to the front in the following manner, either by platoon, ſub-diviſions, or ſections. On the word, TO THE FRONT FORM PLATOON, the fourth rank man of the leading file alone halts, and is inſtantly covered by his center and rear rank men: every other file of the platoon makes a half face to the left, and ſucceſſively moving up, dreſſes on the right file; when the commander of the platoon ſees it is properly dreſſed, he gives the word, *Eyes left*, and places himſelf on the pivot flank. Front form platoon. *Eyes left.*

Should the order have been TO THE FRONT FORM SUB-DIVISIONS (OR SECTIONS), the leading ſub-diviſion, or ſection, will proceed in the manner already detailed for the platoon; the ſucceeding ſub-diviſions, or ſections, will each continue moving on, until its front file arrives at the proper forming diſtance from the diviſion in its front, when it will receive from its commander *to the front form*, and will inſtantly form up by files, in the manner already deſcribed. Front form ſub-diviſions. *Front form,*

LXI. *Forming from File to either flank.*

THE platoon marching in file (ſuppoſe from the right) has only to halt, and front, to be formed to the left flank.

Right form. To form to the right, it will receive the word, *To the right form*; the front rank man of the leading file inſtantly turns to his right and halts; his center and rear rank men at the ſame time move round and cover him —All the other files of the platoon make a half turn to their left, and move round ſucceſſively, in a line with the right hand file; the center and rear rank men of each file keeping cloſed well up to their file leaders.

LXII. *To form to either Flank from Open Column of Sub-diviſions, or Sections.*

Halt. Left wheel and form. March. THE platoon marching in the ordinary time in open column of ſub-diviſions, or ſections, to form to its left, receives the words, HALT, LEFT WHEEL AND FORM, MARCH, &c. and proceeds as has been already ſhown in ſection L.

Right form Platoon. To form the platoon to its right flank, the inſtructor of the drill gives the cautionary word of command, TO THE RIGHT FORM THE PLATOON; on which the commanders of the ſeveral diviſions ſhift to the other flank, and

and the commander of the leading ſub-diviſion, or ſection, inſtantly gives the word to his diviſion, *Right wheel*; and when it has wheeled ſquare, he orders, *Halt, right, dreſs*; goes to the right flank of his diviſion, and dreſſes it on the intended line of formation.—The commander of the other ſub-diviſions, or ſections, on the leading one being ordered to wheel, gives the word, *To the left oblique*, and gradually inclines, ſo as to be able to march clear of the rear rank of the diviſion forming; this being effected, the word, *Forward*, will be given to each diviſion, and they move on in the rear of the one formed.—When the ſecond ſub-diviſion, or ſection, is arrived at the left flank of the firſt, its commander gives the word, *Right wheel*, then, *Halt, dreſs up*; on which the diviſion moves up into the line with the one formed; and its commander inſtantly places himſelf two or three files from the left of his firſt diviſion, and dreſſes his own on it as quickly and as accurately as poſſible. Thus each ſucceeding ſection ſhould proceed, untill the whole be formed.

Right, wheel.
halt, right, dreſs.
Left oblique.
Forward.
Right wheel.
halt dreſs up.

LXIII. *The Platoon moving to the Front, to gain Ground to a Flank, by a March in Echellon, by ſections.*

IN the drill of a platoon, when the ſoldier is compleatly formed, he may be taught

to march in echellon, by ſections. This is a very uſeful movement for a battalion, or larger body moving in line, that is requir-ed to gain ground to a flank, and may be ſubſtituted inſtead of the oblique march.—It will be performed in the following manner.

Sections, right,

The platoon marching to the front in the ordinary time, receives the word, BY SEC-TIONS TO THE RIGHT; the right hand men of the front rank of each ſection, turning in a ſmall degree to their right, mark the time for three paces, during which the ſections are wheeling in ordinary time on their pivot men; at the fourth pace, and at the word,

Forward.

Forward, the whole move on direct to the front that each ſection has now acquired, and the commander of each ſection having taken poſt on the right of his diviſion, the platoon continues its march in echellon.

Form pla-toon.

On the word FORM PLATOON, the pivot men mark the time for three paces, turn-ing back in a ſmall degree to their left, the original front, and the ſections inſtantly wheel backward into line; at the fourth pace the whole move forward. When the platoon is in two ranks only, two paces in-ſtead of three will be ſufficient to mark time,

Forward.

and to ſtep off at the third inſtead of the fourth pace.

LXIV. *From three Ranks forming into two Ranks.*

THE platoon halted, is ordered, FORM TWO DEEP; the rear rank men of the left sub-division, instantly step back one pace; on the word, LEFT FACE, the rear rank of both sub-divisions face; the word QUICK MARCH is then given, on which the men of the rear rank of the left sub-division step short, until those of the right get up to them; they then move on with them in file; as their rear is clearing the left flank of the platoon, the commander (who has shifted to his flank during the movement) gives the words, *Halt, front, dress up*, he instantly dresses them on the standing part of the platoon, and resumes his post on the right.— One third, or one more sub-division, is thus added to the front of the company, which is here supposed standing, as one in a battalion column.

Form two deep.

Left face.

Quick March.

Halt, Front, Dress up.

LXV. *From two Ranks forming into three Ranks.*

THE platoon being halted and told off into three sections, it receives the word, FORM THREE DEEP; on which the third section instantly steps back one pace; the word RIGHT FACE is then given, and the man on the right of its front rank, on facing, disengages a little to his right; on the word QUICK MARCH, the front rank men of the

Form three deep.

Right face.

Quick March.

the

the third ſection ſtep off, thoſe of the other rank mark the time, till they have paſſed, and then follow.—When the leading man has got to the right of the platoon, the commander gives the word, *Halt, front,* on which each man halts, faces to his left, and inſtantly covers his proper file leader.

Halt, front.

IN purſuance of the foregoing inſtructions, and on the principles they contain, every company of a battalion muſt be frequently exerciſed by its own officers, each ſuperintending a rank, or an allotted part of the whole.—And on a ſpace of 70 or 80 yards ſquare, can every circumſtance be practiſed, that is neceſſary to qualify it for the operations of the battalion.—That ſpace being pointed out by under officers, or other marks, as directed at the latter end of the firſt part, the company will practiſe, both at open and cloſe files, without arms, and with arms.

By Ranks.

1ſt. March in ſingle file, by ſucceſſive ranks, along the 4 ſides of the ſquare.—The ſame by twos.

2d. March, and wheel, by ranks of fours; File off ſingly and double up, preſerving proper diſtances, and not quickening on the wheel.

3d. March, and wheel, by ſub-diviſions of ranks.

4th.

4th. March, and wheel, by whole ranks.

5th. March to front, and to rear; ranks at 10 paces asunder.

6th. March the company in a single rank, to front, and to rear, by a flank, and by the center.

7th. Oblique by ranks.

8th. Open and close files, and intervals, by the side step.

9th. March in file to either flank.

10th. Ranks successively advance 6 or 8 paces; halt, and dress.—Ranks successively fall back 6 or 8 paces; halt, and dress.

11th. Advance, or retire 2 or 3 flank men; the ranks dress to them.

12th. Open, and close ranks.

At Close Ranks, and Files.

13th. March, and wheel in all directions, by sub-divisions, and by company.—Shorten step, and lengthen it, the march to be made both in ordinary and quick time.—The wheels to be made in wheeling time.

14th. Advance, and retire, 2 or 3 flank files, and dress to them.

15th. Open, and close to the flank, by the side step.

16th. Change front by the countermarch by files.

17th. March in file to the flanks, close, and without opening out.—Form to the front, or to either flank.

18th. March Oblique.

19th. Sub-divifions double on the march, and again form up, by obliquing.

20th. Wheel backwards by fub-divifions. March along the line, to prolong it;—form to the flank, by wheeling up; or to the front by obliquing.

21ft. File from the flank of company to the rear, as in the paffage of lines:—*Halt, front*,—clofe into pivot file:—Wheel up, as in forming in line.

22d. From 3 deep, form 2 deep.

23d. From 2 deep, form 3 deep.

24th. Exercife of the firelock, manual and platoon, by ranks, and company.

25th. Firing by files, fub-divifions, and company.

The neceffary paufes, and formations, betwixt thefe movements, in order to connect them, muft of courfe be made.—They may be practifed in whatever fucceffion fhall at the fame time be found proper.—The greateft precifion muft be required, and obferved, in their execution, according to the rules already laid down.

Every officer muft be inftructed in each individual circumftance required of a recruit, or a foldier; alfo in the exercife of the fword; and accuftomed to give words of command, with that energy and precifion, which is fo effential.—Every officer, on firft joining a regiment, is to be examined by the commanding officer; and, if he is found imperfect in the knowledge of the movements required from a foldier, he muft be ordered to be exercifed, that he may learn their juft execution. Till he is mafter of

thofe

thoſe points, and capable of inſtructing the men under his command, he is not to be permitted to take the command of a platoon in the battalion.

Squads of officers muſt be formed, and exerciſed by a field officer; they muſt be marched in all directions, to the front, oblique, and to the flank; they muſt be marched in line, at platoon diſtance, and preſerve their dreſſing and line from an advanced center: they muſt be placed in file at platoon diſtance, and march as in open column: they muſt change in direction, as in file, and cover anew in column. In theſe, and other ſimilar movements, the pace and the diſtances are the great objects to be maintained.—From the number of files in diviſion, they muſt learn accurately to judge the ground neceſſary for each, and to extend that knowledge to the front of greater bodies. They muſt acquire the habit of readily aſcertaining, by the eye, perpendiculars of march, and the ſquareneſs of the wheel.

An officer muſt not only know the poſt, which he ſhould occupy, in all changes of ſituation, the commands which he ſhould give, and the general intention of the required movement; but he ſhould be maſter of the principles on which each is made; and of the faults that may be committed, in order to avoid them himſelf, and to inſtruct others.—Theſe principles are in themſelves ſo ſimple, that moderate reflection, habit, and attention, will ſoon ſhow them to the eye, and fix them in the mind; and individuals, from time to time, when qualified, muſt be

ordered to exercife the battalion, or its parts.

The complete inftruction of an officer enlarges with his fituation, and at laft takes in the whole circle of military fcience :—From the variety of knowledge required of him, his exertions muft be unremitting, every one ftriving to make himfelf mafter of his own part.

Befides the inftructions peculiar to the under officers, they fhould be exercifed in the fame manner as the officers are, as they are frequently called on to replace them ;—The neceffity alfo of order, fteadinefs, filence, and of executing every thing deliberately, and without hurry, fhould be ftrongly inculcated in the infantry foldier.

End of Part II.

Formation of the Company.

THE company is always to be ſized from flanks to center.

The company is formed three deep.

The files lightly touch when firelocks are ſhouldered and carried, but without crowding; and each man will occupy a ſpace of about twenty-two inches.

Cloſe order is the chief and primary order, in which the battalion and its parts at all times aſſemble and form. Open order is only regarded as an exception from it, and occaſionally uſed in ſituations of parade and ſhow. In cloſe order; the officers are in the ranks, and the rear ranks are cloſed up within one pace. In open order; the officers are advanced three paces, and the ranks are two paces diſtant from each other.

Each company is a platoon. Each company forms two ſub-diviſions, and alſo four ſections. But as ſections ſhould never be leſs than five files, it will happen, when the companies are weak, that they can only (for the purpoſe of march) form three ſections.

When the company is ſingly formed; the captain is on the right, the enſign on the left, of the front rank, each covered by a ſerjeant in the rear rank. The lieutenant is in the rear, as alſo the drummer and

pioneer.

pioneer in a fourth rank, at three paces diſtance.

The left of the front rank of each ſub-diviſion is marked by a corporal. The right of the left ſub-diviſion may be marked by the other corporal.

When neceſſary, the places of abſent officers may be ſupplied by ſerjeants, thoſe of ſerjeants by corporals, and thoſe of corporals by intelligent men.

When the company is to join others, and the battalion, or part of it, to be formed; the enſign and his covering ſerjeant quit the flank, and fall into the fourth rank, until otherwiſe placed.

When the Company is to take Open Order from Cloſe Order.

Rear Ranks take Open Order. At this command, the flank men on the right and left of the rear ranks, ſtep back to mark the ground on which each rank reſpectively is to halt, and dreſs at open diſtance: they face to the right, and ſtand covered; each other individual remains ready to move.

March. At this command, the rear rank dreſſes front, and the rear ranks fall back one and two paces, each dreſſing by the right, the inſtant it arrives on its ground: The officers move out in front three paces, and divide their ground: One ſerjeant is on each flank of the front rank: The pioneer remains behind the center of the rear rank: The drummer places

places himſelf on the right of the right ſerjeant.

When the Company is to take Cloſe Order from Open Order.

The officers, ſerjeants, drummer, face to the right. *Rear ranks take cloſe order.*

The ranks cloſe within one pace, marching one and two paces, and then halting.

The officers move round the flanks of the company to their reſpective poſts: The ſerjeants and drummers fall back, and each individual reſumes his place, as in the original cloſe order. *March.*

The above regards the company when ſingle; but when united in the battalion, other poſts are allotted to the drummer and pioneer.

Formation of the Battalion.

A PERFECT uniformity in the formation and arrangement of all companies and battalions, is indiſpenſible for the execution of juſt, and combined movements.

The battalion is ten companies. { 1 Grenadier. 8 Battalion. 1 Light. } *Strength of the battalion.*

Each company conſiſts at preſent of { 3 Officers. 2 Serjeants. 3 Corporals. 1 Drummer. 30 Private. }

When

Formation of the battalion. When the companies join and the battalion is formed, there is to be no interval between any of them, grenadiers, light company, or other; but every part of the front of the battalion ſhould be equally ſtrong.

Each company which makes a part of the ſame line, and is to act in it, muſt be formed and arranged in the ſame manner.

Poſition of the companies in battalion. The companies will draw up as follows from right to left:—grenadiers;—1ſt captain and major;—4th and 5th captain:—3d and 6th captain; 2d captain and lieutenant colonel;—light company. The colonel's company takes place according to the rank of its captain: The four eldeſt captains are on the right of the grand diviſions: officers commanding companies or platoons, are all on the right of the front rank of their reſpective ones.

Diviſions. The eight battalion companies will compoſe four grand diviſions;—eight companies or platoons,—ſixteen ſub-diviſions,—thirty-two ſections, when ſufficiently ſtrong to be ſo divided, otherwiſe twenty-four, for the purpoſes of march. The battalion is alſo divided into right and left wings.—When the battalion is on a war eſtabliſhment, each company will be divided into two platoons.—When the ten companies are with the battalion, they may then, for the purpoſes of firing, or deploying, be divided into five grand diviſions from right to left.

The battalion companies will be numbered from the right to the left, 1. 2. 3. 4. 5. 6. 7. 8.—The ſub-diviſions will be numbered 1. 2. of each;—the ſections will be number-

ed

ed 1. 2. 3. 4. of each ;—the files of companies will alſo be numbered 1. 2 3. 4. &c. —The grenadier and light companies will be numbered ſeparately in the ſame manner, and with the addition of thoſe diſtinctions. —The ſeveral appellations will be preſerved, whether faced to the front or rear.

Companies equalized.

The companies muſt be equalized in point of all numbers, at all times when the battalion is formed for field movement, and could the battalions of a line alſo be equalized, the greateſt advantages would ariſe; but though from the different ſtrengths of battalions this cannot take place, yet the firſt requiſite always muſt, and is indiſpenſible.

Formation of the battalion at Cloſe Order.

Ranks are at the diſtance of one pace, except the fourth or ſupernumerary rank, which has three paces.

All the field officers and the adjutant are mounted.

The commanding officer is the only officer advanced in front, for the general purpoſe of exerciſe when the battalion is ſingle; but in the march in line, and in the firings, he is in the rear of the colours.

The lieutenant colonel is behind the colours, ſix paces from the rear rank.

The major and adjutant are ſix paces in the rear of the third and ſixth companies.

One officer is on the right of the front rank of each company or platoon, and one on the left of the battalion; all theſe are

covered

covered in the rear rank by their reſpective ſerjeants; and the remaining officers and ſerjeants are in the fourth rank behind their companies.—It is to be obſerved, that there are no coverers in the center rank to the officers or colours.

The colours are placed between the fourth and fifth battalion companies, both in the front rank, and each covered by a non-commiſſioned officer, or ſteady man in the rear rank.—One ſerjeant is in the front rank betwixt the colours; he is covered by a ſecond ſerjeant in the rear rank, and by a third in the ſupernumerary rank. The ſole buſineſs of theſe three ſerjeants is, when the battalion moves in line, to advance and direct the march as hereafter mentioned.—The place of the firſt of thoſe ſerjeants, when they do move out, is preſerved by a named officer or ſerjeant, who moves up from the ſupernumerary rank for that purpoſe.

Uſe of the fourth or ſupernumerary rank.

The fourth rank is at three paces diſtance when halted, or marching in line. When marching in column, it muſt cloſe up to the diſtance of the other ranks.—The eſſential uſe of the fourth rank, is to keep the others cloſed up to the front during the attack, and to prevent any break beginning in the rear; on this important ſervice, too many officers and non-commiſſioned officers cannot be employed.

The pioneers are aſſembled behind the center, formed two deep, and nine paces from the third rank.

The

The drummers of the eight battalion companies are aſſembled in two diviſions, ſix paces behind the third rank of their ſecond and ſeventh companies. The grenadier and light company drummers and fifers, are ſix paces behind their reſpective companies.

The muſic are three paces behind the pioneers in a ſingle rank, and at all times, as well as the drummers and pioneers, are formed at looſe files only, occupying no more ſpace than is neceſſary.

The ſtaff of chaplain, ſurgeon, quarter-maſter, and ſurgeon's mate, are three paces behind the muſic.

Officers.

In general, officers remain poſted with their proper companies; but commanding officers will occaſionally make ſuch changes as they may find neceſſary.

Replacing ſerjeants.

Whenever the officers move out of the front rank, in parade, marching in column, wheeling into line, or otherwiſe, their places are taken by their ſerjeant coverers, and preſerved until the officers again reſume them.

When the line is halted, and eſpecially during the firings when engaged; the ſerjeant coverers fall back into the fourth rank, and obſerve their platoons.

When the Battalion takes Open Order.

Commands.

Rear Ranks take Open Order.

At this command—the flank men on the right of the rear ranks of each company ſtep briſkly back to mark the ground on which each rank reſpectively is to halt. They

face to the right, and cover as pivots, being regulated and dreſſed by the adjutant or ſerjeant-major on the right.—Every other individual remains ready to move.

March. At this command—the flank dreſſers face to the front, and the whole move as follows:

The rear ranks fall back one and two paces, each dreſſing by the right the inſtant it arrives on the ground.

The officers in the front rank, as alſo the colours, move out three paces,—thoſe in the rear, together with the muſic, move through the intervals left open by the front rank officers, and divide themſelves, viz. the captains covering the ſecond file from the right, the lieutenants the ſecond file from the left; and the enſigns oppoſite the center of their reſpective companies.

The muſic form between the colours and the front rank.

The ſerjeant coverers move up to the front rank, to preſerve the intervals left by the officers.

The pioneers fall back to ſix paces diſtance behind the center of the rear rank.

The drummers take the ſame diſtance behind their diviſions.

The major moves to the right of the line of officers.—The adjutant to the left of the front rank.

The ſtaff place themſelves on the right of the front rank of the grenadiers, viz. chaplain, ſurgeon, quarter-maſter, mate.

The lieutenant-colonel, and the colonel (diſmounted), advance before the colours, two and four paces.

The

The whole being arrived at their ſeveral poſts—Halt—Dreſs to the right, and the battalion remains formed in parade, in the order in which they would receive a ſuperior officer.

When the battalion is reviewed ſingly, then in order to make more ſhow—the diviſion of drummers may be moved up, and formed two deep on each flank of the line—the pioneers may be formed two deep on the right of the drummers of the right—and the ſtaff may form on the right of the whole.

When the Battalion reſumes Cloſe Order.

Commands.

The lieutenant-colonel, officers, colours, ſtaff, muſic, face to the right.

Rear ranks take cloſe order.

The drummers and pioneers (if on the flanks) face to the center.

The ſerjeants (if in the front rank) face to the right.

The rear ranks cloſe within one pace, moving up one and two paces, and then halting.

The muſic marches through the center interval.

The ſerjeants, drummers, pioneers, &c. &c. reſume their places, each as in the original formation of the battalion in cloſe order.

March.

 The

The officers move through and into their respective intervals; and each individual arrives at, and places himself properly at his post in close order.

Posting of officers.

On particular occasions, when necessary, officers commanding platoons, who in line are on the right of their platoons, shift to the left to conduct the heads of the files, or the pivot flanks of their divisions in column or echellon.

Colours.

When the battalion wheels by companies or sub-divisions to either flank into column; both colours and the file of directing serjeants always wheel to the proper front, and place themselves behind the third file from the new pivot.

Colour reserve.

There is no separate colour reserve; the pioneers, music, &c. sufficiently strengthen the center; but in the firings the two files on each side of the colours may be ordered to reserve their fire.

Light Company.

The constant order of the light company when formed in line, and united with the battalion, is at the same close files as the battalion.--Their extended order is an occasional exception.

When the light company is detached, and the grenadier company remains, it will be undivided in one flank of its battalion, whenever there are several battalions in line; but when the battalion is single, it is permitted to be occasionally divided on each flank.

Grenadiers

When the grenadier or light companies are detached, and make no part of the line, they

they may be formed two deep, if it is found proper.

With a very few obvious alterations, these general rules take place when a company or battalion is permitted or ordered to form in two ranks only—and which, on the present low eſtabliſhment of our battalions, may be often done for the purpoſes of exerciſe and movement on a more conſiderable front: it is alſo evident that they generally apply, whether the companies are ſtrong or weak, and whether a greater or leſſer number of them compoſe the battalion.

ABSTRACT of the moſt Eſſential General Attentions required in the Movements of the Battalion, and which will be more fully detailed under that head.

Attentions of the Soldier.

Times of march. QUICK TIME is in general confined to WHEELINGS and FILINGS, the other movements of the platoon or battalion are made in ORDINARY TIME.—It is very ſeldom, indeed, that they will, or ought to be required at quick time.

Wheelings. All WHEELINGS, forward or backward, are made quick.—Eyes are turned to the wheeling hand at the word *March* (and not before)—The wheeling flank man ſteps out firm at a pace of thirty-three inches, till he receives his word *Halt*; it is the buſineſs of the reſt of the rank to keep up to him. ——Eyes remain in all caſes to the wheeling hand, till a new order is given by the commanding officer.

Filings. All FILINGS are made quick, cloſe and at the lock-ſtep. Files are at no time to open out, on occaſion of exerciſe, parade, or manœuvre; but they will often be ſo permited and ORDERED, when marching in the ſtreets, or in common route marching, when the march by diviſions cannot ſo conveniently take place.

All

All FACINGS muſt be accurately made on the left heel. Pivot men muſt cover carefully and exactly. In wheeling backward, the ſtanding man faces the oppoſite way to what he does if wheeling forward.—Pivot men, whether in wheeling into column, or in wheeling into battalion, when once poſted, are to remain immoveable, and do not ſhift in conſequence of platoon-dreſſing, nor on any account, but by order of the commanding officer of the battalion, when he finds it neceſſary to require a more correct dreſſing from the whole. Pivot men.

The great OBSERVANCE of the ſoldier in the ranks and under arms, is the ſquareneſs of the ſhoulders and body, the head to the front, and the eyes only glanced to the point of dreſſing. When the battalion is halted, and a more accurate *dreſſing* is ordered, the head may be a little turned during that operation only, and each man ſhould juſt diſtinguiſh the lower part of the face of the ſecond man from him.—Whether in movement, or halted, each man is juſt to touch (without crouding) his neighbour's arm, towards whom he dreſſes, and to depend on that chiefly for his line. Poſition.

At the word, *March*, the ſtamp of the foot is not to be made, but the firſt ſtep is to be taken as firm and lengthy as any other, and the body of each man, if in his true poſition under arms, is prepared for it by an inclination forward. On the perfect execution of this depends much of the accuracy of march.—On the word *March*, the firſt ſtep March.

ſtep in all ſituations is taken with the left foot.—When the commanding officer of the battalion gives the word *March*, the whole ſtep off together, whether into line or in column. When he gives the word *Halt*, the whole halt at that inſtant.

At the word *March*, eyes are directed to the pivot flank, if in column, or to the head of the file if filing; to the colours, if marching in battalion; and in general to that point by which they are conducted.

Halt, At the word *Halt*, the foot in the air finiſhes its ſtep, and the other is brought up to it.—*Eyes* remain directed to the pivot flank, if marching in column; to the colours, if in line; or to the wheeling flank, if wheeling; and in general, to the point to which they were turned when in movement, until a new order commands a new dreſſing. Whenever the word *Dreſs* is given by platoon officers to their platoons, eyes are turned to the pivot where the officer is, and from whence he corrects them upon a diſtant object.

Line. In marching in line, each man muſt preſerve his body perfectly ſquare, and juſt feel the touch of his neighbour, who is nearer than himſelf to the directing point; and the rear ranks are to be well locked up, particularly when firing. In marching in battalion, or when halted, rear ranks will be locked up; but in marching in column, they may in general be at one pace diſtance: the ſteps are to be taken firm and marked.

Carriage of arms. All alterations in *carrying*, *ſupporting arms*, &c. are done by the whole battalion

at

at once, whether in line or in column, and not by the divisions of it separately. The commanding officer gives the word, and not the platoon officers; and no such change is at any time made, but in consequence of his command; the men therefore in all cases, *wheel*, *halt*, *march*, *dress*, *&c.* with their arms *carried*, *supported*, *&c.* according as the last given command directed them. The same is to be observed whenever the battalion, moving in line, or column, changes its time of march.

In column, when the right of the battalion is in front, the left is the pivot flank; and when the left of the battalion is in front, the right is the pivot flank. Pivot Flanks.

In marching in column, the pivot files of men next to the officers must have great attention in covering, when the movement is made in a straight line, as they are points on which the formation is made, and therefore, for that purpose, they remain close to their pivot officers, who in that situation cover and give distance. Pivot Files.

Supported arms should only be allowed when halted in line, or when moving in column.——But the march in line, and in general all wheelings up into line, and all formings of the line, or dressing it, should be made with *carried arms*, as the only situation which preserves the true distance of files, or can give an accurate line.

Covering Platoon Serjeants.

Poſition of the Covering Serjeant.

The COVERING SERJEANT accompanies
aſſiſts the platoon officer in all his mo
ments, and preſerves his place in line,
on the pivot flank in column, whenever
officer's duty requires him occaſionally
quit it.—In battalion, he covers in the r
rank.—At open order, he moves into
officer's place in the front rank. At c
order, he leaves it for the officer to take
In the march in echellon he is on the o
ward flank of the front.

In Column.

When the battalion breaks into colu
to the right, or left, the ſerjeant falls b
two paces; and when the wheel is finiſ
he covers his officer on the pivot fla
When the column marches, if the office
in the front of the platoon, the ſerjeant
on the pivot of the front rank, and is
ſwerable for the platoon diſtance: if
officer remains on the pivot flank, the
jeant then falls behind the rear rank,
covers the ſecond file from the pivot.

Wheeling into line.

When from column, the right in fr
platoons wheel up to the left in line;
ſerjeant, at the word *Wheel*, goes to the ri
of the front rank of the platoon, and whe
up with it, thereby preſerving the offic
place. If the wheel is to the right, the
ſerjeant is behind the right file, ready to
move up to the officer's place at the con-
cluſion of the wheel. On all occaſions,
when any platoon (which is then ſepa-

rated

rated) joins in line to the one on its right, at that inſtant muſt the covering ſerjeant be on its right, to preſerve the place of his officer, who may be employed in dreſſing his platoon.

When the platoons *Wheel* either into line, or into column, the ſerjeant of the leading platoon runs out, and marks the point in the line of pivots, where its flank is to halt. Leading platoon.

When platoons *countermarch* in column, the ſerjeant moves into the officer's place (when he quits it to lead in file), *faces* to the right about, ſtands faſt, and becomes the pivot point for the front rank leader to cloſe to after the countermarch is finiſhed, and his place is occupied by the officer after dreſſing his diviſion. Counter-march.

When the platoons from columns file in order to take a new line, either to the front or rear; the ſerjeant of each ſucceſſively, as it arrives within thirty yards of that line (and no ſooner), runs out, takes diſtance, places himſelf on it, and remains as a point to which his officer is to bring, and cloſe in the pivot flank man of his platoon, and as a point which the officer himſelf is afterwards to occupy. In file.

Whenever the battalion halts to fire, the ſerjeants fall back, and in concert with the ſupernumerary rank, keep the rear ranks well locked up, and attentive to their duty.— When the battalion again moves, the ſerjeants reſume their places. Firings.

When the battalion is in column of ſub-diviſions, if the officer is ordered to march in front of his platoon, the ſerjeant Sub-diviſions.

is

is on the pivot of the leading ſub-diviſion.—If the officer is on the flank of his leading ſub-diviſion, the ſerjeant takes the flank of the ſecond. In column of ſections, the ſerjeant alſo takes the flank of the ſecond ſection.

Cloſe column. In cloſe column, the ſerjeant is on the flank of the rear rank behind his officer; and in forming line after the *halt*, *front* of the platoon, he remains on its outward flank.

Pioneers. The PIONEERS in column of march, are in front.—In line, they are formed two deep behind the center, and nine paces from the rear rank.

Drummers. DRUMMERS in column of march, or cloſe column, are with their companies, and on the flank, not the pivot one.—In line, the grenadier and light drummers are ſix paces behind the rear rank of their companies.—The battalion drummers are in two diviſions, and formed ſix paces behind the third and ſeventh companies. In parade, at open ranks, the drummers preſerve their ſix paces from the rear rank.

Echellon. Whenever the platoon is cautioned to *wheel* forward or backward any *named* number of paces, the ſerjeant immediately poſts himſelf before or behind the tenth, or any other given file, from the ſtanding flank, and takes the ordered number of paces; when his platoon has conformed, he places himſelf on its outward flank.

Muſic. The MUSIC, in open or cloſe column, are on the flank, which is not the pivot one; in line, they are in a ſingle rank behind the

the centre, twelve paces from the rear rank; in parade, at open ranks, they are between the colours and the front rank.

Drummers, music, pioneers, &c. will take care not to impede the flank movements of the close column, nor its formation into line, but will get into the rear of their respective battalions as soon as they are disengaged from each other. Music, &c.

Attentions in Platoon Officers.

When the battalion is formed in line, company or platoon officers are all on the right of their platoons.—In column, they are on the pivot flank, unless particularly ordered into the front of each platoon, if a march of any considerable distance is to be made.—When on the pivot flanks, they are answerable in their own persons for distances and covering: When in front, their serjeants, under their direction, preserve the ordered distance. Position of platoon officers.

In wheeling from line to column, each moves out, and places himself one pace before the centre of his platoon; each turns towards his men during the wheel, and inclines to his pivot flank; each gives his word *Halt, Dress*, when his wheeling man has just completed his degree of wheel; each squares his platoon, but without moving what was the standing flank; each then places himself on the proper pivot flank.—After the Wheeling into column.

wheel into column is completed, no one is to cauſe his platoon to ſhift, by way of covering on the pivot flank, unleſs ſo ordered by the commanding officer, or that in the courſe of marching a ſtraight line is gradually taken up.

Wheeling into line. In wheeling from column into line, each places himſelf one pace before the centre of his platoon; each turns towards his men during the wheel, and inclines towards the pivot of his preceding platoon; each gives his word *Halt*, when his wheeling man, on whom his eye is fixed, is juſt arrived at the next ſtanding pivot man: each then from that next pivot man corrects the interior of his platoon upon his own pivot man; each then takes his place, and remains ſteady on the right of his platoon.

Wheeling in column on a fixed oint. If the column is in movement, and platoons are ſucceſſively to *wheel* into a new direction, each officer, to whatever hand he is to wheel, gives his word from the point he is then placed at, whether in front, or in flank.—If on the wheeling flank, he conducts it.—If he is on the ſtanding flank, he ſteps out two or three paces, the better to ſee that his platoon wheels quick, with a lengthy ſtep, and that he may time his word *Halt*; this don·, he is to fall back to his place on the pivot flank, no longer to look to his platcon, but having his eye fixed on the officer of the preceding platoon, he is to give his word *March*, at the inſtant that officer is taking the laſt ſtep which eſtabliſhes the proper diſtance betwixt the platoons.

When

When an officer is marching on the pivot flank, he is to be anſwerable for diſtance and covering; theſe circumſtances alone muſt ſolely engage his whole attention; he can only occaſionally give a glance of his eyes towards his platoon, which muſt dreſs to him of courſe, and without any particular direction. On the pivot flank.

When platoons in column are each to countermarch on its own ground, the officer, when the platoon faces, goes to that flank, which is to become the pivot flank, conducts his platoon in file, and cloſes its leader to the ſerjeant, who has remained to mark the pivot, *halts*, *fronts*, and dreſſes it ſquare; he then places himſelf where the ſerjeant ſtood. Countermarch of platoons.

When the battalion marches in line, officers then become individuals, equally attentive as the ſoldier; nor can officers then be attentive to any thing but the correctneſs of their own perſonal march; every operation then depends on the word from the commanding officer, who MOVES, HALTS, and DRESSES the battalions.—Whenever the battalion is in line, officers give no command except in firings. In line.

When the platoons of a column *file* ſeparately to a flank, the officer conducts the head, and when he arrives within thirty paces of the new poſition, in which he is to form, he detaches his ſerjeant to mark the point at which he is to place his pivot front rank man, either in filing to front or rear; the officer ſtops at that ſerjeant, and *halts*, *fronts*, and *dreſſes* his platoon cloſe In file.

to the ſerjeant; he then, himſelf, after correcting his platoon, replaces the ſerjeant, who falls back to the rear rank.—In FILING, diſtances and dreſſings are generally taken from that hand to which, by a face of the platoons, the whole would ſtand fronted in column, and the line breaks into column towards the directing point.—The leaders of the third, fourth, &c. platoons, from the directing flank, are never to overpaſs the ſtraight line which joins the heads of the firſt and ſecond, but are if any thing to be behind it, till they arrive and halt exactly in the new line.—In movements to the rear, diſtances and dreſſing are always taken from the ſame point to which they would be made if the movement was to the front, that is, from the left, in going to the rear; if it ſhould be from the right, in going to the front.

Leading Officer.

On the leading platoon officer of the column, much of the preciſion of march depends: he muſt lead at an equal, ſteady pace; he muſt lead on two objects either given to him, or which he himſelf takes up after every alteration of poſition; this demands his utmoſt attention; nor muſt he allow it to be diverted by looking at his platoon, the care of whoſe regularity depends on the other officers, and non-commiſſioned officers, belonging to it.—The ſecond platoon officer muſt alſo be ſhewn, and know the points on which the firſt leads; he is always to keep that firſt officer and thoſe points in a line, and thoſe two officers, together with the placed mounted officers,

thus

thus become a direction for the other pivot officers to cover.—In marching in open column, the covering ſerjeants are placed behind the ſecond file from the pivot officers, that the officers may the more correctly ſee and cover each other in column.

When pivots march.

In the column of march, after the word HALT is given, no one is to move, and pivots particularly muſt remain where they are then placed. In this ſituation, when ordered to FORM, each platoon WHEELS up to its adjoining pivot; the whole, will then, perhaps, (as in the caſe of marching on a road, along the different turnings of a height, &c. &c.) be in a winding line, and muſt not attempt to get into a ſtraight line, unleſs ſo ordered by the commanding officer to anſwer ſome particular object.

Wheeling backwards.

When the platoon wheels BACKWARDS from line into column, the ſituation and buſineſs of the officer is the ſame as when wheeling forwards. And he *halts* and *dreſſes* from his pivot flank, which he gains during the wheel.

In cloſe column.

In cloſe column, diviſion officers are on the pivot flanks.—In forming line, before the diviſions face, they are ſhifted to the leading flanks, if neceſſary.—The officer of each ſtops in his own perſon when the diviſion nearer to the forming point than himſelf receives the word *Halt, Front*.—He allows his ſerjeant to proceed with the diviſion; at the due inſtant gives his word *Halt, Front, Dreſs*, and as ſoon as the front of his diviſion is clear, the word *March* conducting it into line.—Before the diviſion

arrives within three or four paces of its ground, the officer will have ftepped out nimbly to the flank of the preceding divifion, and will be thus ready to give the word *Halt*, *Drefs*, at the inftant his inward flank man joins the preceding divifion.—The men drefs by the formed part of the line, and the officer corrects them on the known diftant point.—He then refumes his platoon place, which has been preferved by a ferjeant.—When the clofe column, or part of it, forms line on a rear divifion—the officer of each, when the one behind him halts, fronts, will ftep nimbly round to the rear (and without impeding his divifion, allow his ferjeant to proceed), from thence he can better judge the proper moment of giving his word, *Halt*, *Front*, to his divifion; he then places himfelf on its outward flank, and *marches* up when his front is clear.

Colours. The officer of one of the center platoons is always in open column to preferve diftance for the colour files.—The colours wheel up into column, with the leading center platoon, and place themfelves behind the third file of men from its pivot flank; when the line forms, they clofe in to that flank.

In front divifions. When officers march in front of their divifions, they muft in their own perfons keep fo clofe to the preceding ones, as not to hinder the flank of their own divifion from preferving its proper diftance.

Wheels in column of march. When the head of a column of march changes its direction, and that marching in an alignement is not in queftion, inftead of making regular wheels on fixed points, the officer

officer who conducts the leading division will often be directed gradually to bring it round into the new direction, by the turn of the outward shoulder, making both his flanks continue moveable; but each succeeding division, without the formality of command, or halt, does the same thing, the whole attention resting on each pivot flank, which at no rate must increase its distance; but during this operation preserves the same equal time and step at which it was before moving.

Close column.

On all occasions of forming in line, either by wheeling up from open column, or in moving up from close column, or in marching up from echellon, &c.—the conducting officer moves nimbly to his point d'appui, some paces before the arrival of his division in the line, and from thence gives his word to *halt*, and instantly dresses it.

Supernumerary rank.

Officers and Serjeants of the SUPERNUMERARY rank are in the rear of their respective companies,—when the battalion is halted, or marching in line, they are three paces from the rear rank.—In open column, they are within one pace of the rear rank.—In close column, they go on the flank of their division which is not the pivot.—Their great attention during movements is, that files are correct, ranks keep up, and that perfect order is preserved among the soldiers, circumstances in which they greatly assist the platoon officer, who having the important objects of distance and covering of pivots to observe, cannot in such a situation be giving minute directions to his platoon,

toon, without loſing ſight of his more material duties.—During the firings, the ſupernumerary rank, aſſiſted by the platoon ſerjeants, are to keep the rear ranks well cloſed up to the front, and to prevent any break beginning in the rear.

Staff. The STAFF (adjutant excepted) in line are three paces behind the muſic.—In parade at open ranks, they are on the right of the grenadier front rank.

Adjutant gives point. It is the particular buſineſs of the ADJUTANT at all times to aſcertain the direction on which the column is to move, or on which the formation of the lines is to be made. For this purpoſe he ought to be mounted, otherwiſe he cannot diſcharge this important duty; and he can be much aſſiſted in it, by having two or three camp colour men, or non-commiſſioned officers properly trained, to line themſelves quickly with any two given points.—He is to take care that the points where the battalion in column enters, an alignement is aſcertained to it: When it is moving in that alignement, that two points a-head of the column are always prepared.—When it wheels up into line, that a point beyond each flank in that line is aſcertained.—When the line is to be prolonged, and has wheeled backward by diviſions, that two points in the exact line of the pivots are ready for its march.—When the cloſe column is to form in line, that two points to each flank are given.—When the battalion changes poſition, either by files or by the diagonal march of diviſions, that there are points given on which the pivots of

of files will cover, and can drefs their divisions upon, from their feveral points of appui.—In fhort, that upon all occafions, fixed points of forming, dreffing, and march, are given, except in advancing in line, where the afcertaining fuch points does not depend on the adjutant.

When the battalion changes pofition by the echelion march, the named divifion wheels its 10th file into the new direction.—The other divifions wheel their 10th file half the number of paces as the named one. The ferjeant is on the outward flank, the officer on the inward flank of each divifion. At the word MARCH, they move on, preferving their relative diftance, and covering of pivots from before them, and juft before the inward flank of each divifion arrives at the outward flank of its preceding one, which is already halted in line, its officer places himfelf before that flank; and when his inward man touches it, he gives his word *Halt, Drefs up*, if the movement is to the front, and dreffes his divifion on the diftant given flank point, fo that his divifion is fteadied before the arrival of the next one.—When the change is made to the rear, the retreating part *faces* about before the divifion wheels are made, proceeds as above, and each officer *halt front, drefs back*, his divifion when its inward man touches the preceding formed one. Echellon.

Attentions

Attentions of Commanding Officers of Battalions.

The battalion may be considered to the line, what the platoon is to the battalion.

Field Officers mounted. Commanding and Field Officers are always to be mounted, and, unless they are active on horseback, it is impossible for them to see to correct, to prevent mistakes, or to move with that dispatch which is necessary from one point to another.

Commands. Whatever operation is to be performed by the whole of the battalion at once, is done upon the word from the commanding officer, without any repetition being made by platoon officers; he puts it in *motion* and *halts* it, whether in line or column; he *wheels* it from line into column, and from column into line; he *orders* arms to be *carried, supported, &c.* he *dresses* it from the center, when it has marched, and halts, and from what was the leading flank when it has *Wheeled* up from column into line.

Points of march. Before the column marches, the commanding officer ascertains *points* to the leading officer, and when he intends to change the direction of the march, he gives new points, and he watches over the just leading of the column. He takes care that all *wheels* of platoons are made at the identical point where the leading platoon wheeled; that all *doublings* of sub-divisions are made successively in the same manner, and at the same point; and that *forming* up to platoons is made at the spot where the first forming

forming up is made.—That in all diminutions of the front, the natural order of the column is preserved, whether the right or left of the battalion leads.—That a column of half platoons occupies no more ſpace than a column of whole platoons, viz. juſt ſufficient to wheel up into battalion. Points of doubling and wheeling.

When the open column marching in an alignement is to *form* in a ſtraight line, and for that purpoſe *halts*; the inſtant that it does halt, the commanding officer from the head of the battalion at that inſtant corrects the pivot files of men (which ought not to be neceſſary) in the true line, and upon a rear point.—But if the *march* is making in a winding direction, and that the intention is not to form, or not to take up a ſtraight line, the platoons remain on the ground on which they *halt*, and do not move in any ſhape, until they receive a further *order*, either to form in line; or firſt to cover, and then to form; or to continue the march. Halt of the column.

The commanding officer always conducts the head of his battalion column to the point at which it is to *enter* a new line, and he takes care in time to diſpatch a mounted officer to aſcertain that point. When the platoons *wheel* up into line, he immediately (if neceſſary) corrects the dreſſing of the battalion from the flank which led when in column, and that generally upon a point beyond the other flank. Dreſſing.

When acting in line with others, the Commanding Officer of each battalion conforms to the movements of the regulating one, and from it takes and rapidly repeats Commands in line.

his

his words of *Halt*, *Wheel*, *March*, &c. and the leaſt delay in repeating the words *Halt*, or *March*, muſt undoubtedly diſorder the line in proportion to that delay, for the whole of a line ſhould *march*, or *halt*, at the ſame inſtant.

Attentions in line.

In line, the commanding officer is in rear of the colours; from thence, by marked cautions, he makes his battalion *ſtep out*, or *ſtep ſhort*, or *incline*, as is neceſſary to preſerve its place in the general line; his great attention is to ſee and prevent the beginning of faults, and not wait till they have had their effect; by watching and regulating his advanced ſerjeants, he beſt regulates his battalion; the ſquareneſs of the march, the compactneſs of the files, and the equality of ſtep, are the great objects he is to have in view.—The other mounted officers are behind the wings, and can aſſiſt much in preventing faults, and in correcting them.

Dreſſing in line.

All the battalions of a line muſt *halt* at the ſame inſtant in conſequence of that word, repeated by commanding officers, whether they are then correct or not in line.—*Each* half battalion from its own colour, and the men looking to it, will be immediately dreſſed on the colours of the next adjoining battalion; by this means a general continued line will be obtained, and, at any rate, a ſtraight one between each two columns; and if all the colours ſhould have truly halted in one line, the whole corps will be completely formed in a ſtraight line. But if the *halt* is not juſtly made, and that a better line muſt be obtained, the colours

of

of the defective battalions will be brought into the general line; the platoon officers will quickly *arrange* themselves, *eyes* will be ordered to the *right*, and the men will in an inſtant *move* up; too much celerity cannot be uſed in completing this operation.

A ſingle battalion, when it halts, is dreſſed on its right or left center company, and is therefore in a ſtraight line.—Two battalions dreſs each from its center on each other's colours, their outward wings conforming, and are therefore in a ſtraight line.—Three or more battalions dreſs from the center of each on their next colour; and therefore if all the colours halt in a line, the line of the whole will be ſtraight: if they are not in a line, the general line will not be ſtraight (till a ſpecial correction is made), but no flank will be thrown out of the general direction.

When a battalion retires, and *halts*, it ought never to remain in that ſituation, but be immediately *faced* about, and dreſſed to the proper front.

The greateſt fault that a battalion in line can make, is increaſing its interval: bad dreſſing may be remedied without danger, but a falſe diſtance preſents a weak part to an enemy, and is not to be cloſed without a hazardous movement, and great operations of the line. Intervals.

Commanding officers cannot take too much precaution to aſcertain true points in the line in which they are to form, before the arrival of their battalion in it. Aids in exerciſe.

 When

When a battalion is exercifing fingly, a commanding officer fhould have two camp colour bearers behind each flank, properly trained, and ready to run out to that flank, to give points of marching, forming or dreffing upon the true line. In doing which, one flank of the battalion is generally confidered as in that line, and often both.

Attentions. Words of command cannot be fpecified for all the variety of circumftances and fituations that occur; but commanding officers being themfelves clear in what is to be done, fhould by diftinct and explicit orders, which they divide and adapt to the occafion, lead their battalions through all the points of execution with precifion; this will always be found the fhorteft path, nor on any account fhould any operation (once a battalion is affembled under arms) be performed in a carelefs or flovenly manner, which will always be the cafe if the commander's orders are not pointed, loud, and fufficiently explanatory.

Clofe column. A battalion *clofe* column forms in line on its front divifion, on its rear divifion, or on a central one, according as circumftances require; and in all cafes the line formed upon is that on which the head of the column or columns is halted before the formation begins, and therefore the divifion on which each battalion at any time forms, moves up at the proper inftant, and halts on that line.—When feveral clofe battalions, ftanding on the line, are to extend and form, the regulating and named battalion *only* can be obliged to form on a central divifion; *each*

each of the others will form on its front, or rear division, viz. on that which first arrives at its ground, where it *halts*, *fronts*, and occupies its proper place, while the others move on, and successively come up to it.

Forming in line

In forming line from close column, points must be given beyond both flanks in the direction of the line, and a mounted officer halts, and fronts, each division, which is equally necessary for those that form upon a rear one, although less so for those that form upon a front one.—The dressing and correction of the line is from the first formed division towards the other flank, and all the eyes of the battalion are of course turned to the first formed division.

As many points are required for one battalion as for several.

The same number of *points* are required for the march in any alignement, and wheeling up into line of an open column of one battalion, as for that of several battalions, viz. *one* where the line is entered, and (always) *two* beyond the head of the column.—Therefore, though these precautions may appear formal for the movements of the battalion when single, yet are they necessary in all its exercises; when it is recollected, that such battalion is in the place of, and must consider itself as the leading one of the column, on whose correct positions those of every following one depends.—The same exactness is required in every extension from close column into line, and in every forming and change of position that the battalion makes.—In fine, in order to qualify the battalion for acting in general line, it must at its single exercises work on

points fixed and relative, and make no chance and accidental movements and formations.

In all situations exact points of march cannot be given.

Although on most occasions of movement and formation, and at all times in instruction, determined *points*, marked by detached and mounted officers, are given: yet such helps cannot be expected or depended on, when the line is advancing on an enemy,—when a corps is harrassed in its retreat, and when it is unsafe to send out officers, &c.—In such situations every thing will depend on the eye and judgment of conducting officers, who must preserve such direction of movement, and seize such accidental points as present themselves, and lead to the object which is to be accomplished.

The battalion in no situation covers more ground than the proper extent of its front.

In whatever shape a battalion is moving, the commanding officer is never to lose sight of this great *principle*, that the battalion should at no time cover more ground than its proper extent when formed in line.—Therefore, if he is marching in line, he must take care that his files do not open; and if he is marching in column, his great attention is that his divisions do not open. For this purpose his march must be just, and compact, his wheels quick, and all doublings up, or back, which alter the extent of front, must be made so as not to impede the general movements of the column, or to change its distance.—When the front is to be diminished, he must see that the doubling division slackens its pace, and when disengaged from the other division, that it inclines well up, quick, and covers, there-

by

by not impeding the divifion behind it. When the front is to be increafed, the moving up divifion does it quick and by oblique marching.

Marching in an alignement.

The commanding officer muft recollect, that in the winding movements of the *open column* of *march*,—the wheeling diftances muft be juft; that the pivots are to follow on the exact tract, which the leading one has traced out; that the whole, when ordered, halt on the precife ground they then occupy; and that when they wheel up and form, the line will then be a continued, but probably an irregular curved one.—But if a ftraight line is to be entered and formed upon, from the point where the head enters, and not fooner, and where a mounted officer remains pofted, does every platoon officer begin to cover in the true line, to march in that line, and to preferve his true diftance; nor muft any obftacle that can poffibly be furmounted, ever force the pivot officers out of that line; although the men of their platoon, when it becomes neceffary, may open or widen their files from them.—And if the pivots, on account of any material obftacle, are thrown for a time out of the line, they fhould always, if poffible, move to the hand which carries them behind the line, and again re-enter it when they can; and for which purpofe an officer, or noncommiffioned officer, fhould be placed where they are to re-enter it.—In marching in the alignement, the field officer fhould frequently place *himfelf* in it, with a glance of the

eye ſee whether the files preſerve it, and correct them if neceſſary.

As *one* field officer at a time muſt command the battalion, the others preſent can only act in aid of him, nor can their ſituations in all caſes be aſcertained; but ſhould the commanding officer not be at the head of the open column (when it marches, and particularly when it halts), to correct, if neceſſary, the pivots in the general line, another field officer, or the leading officer, if no field officer is there, ſhould inſtantly attend to it, that the wheeling up may not be delayed.—If, in the courſe of exerciſe and inſtruction, the commanding officer is not behind the center when the battalion marches in line or halts, the other field officer from that ſituation can immediately give every proper aid in movement, or in every caſe it muſt be evident in what manner the commanding officer can be aſſiſted.

Wheeling backward.

When the line is to break up and wheel into open column of march, in almoſt all caſes it is better done by wheeling *backward* than forward, for the wheel is in this manner made on the pivot flanks; and although diviſions may be unequal, yet theſe flanks cover after the wheel, an advantage which is loſt after the wheels are made forward.

Attentions to Echellon.

When a battalion makes a retired ECHELLON, or part of an echellon of a conſiderable line; the commanding officer muſt take great care to regulate his movements by thoſe of the one preceding him, viz. that he preſerves his paralleliſm; his ordered diſtance; his proper flank interval; and when

when the leading echellons halt, and that he is to move up into line, that the outward flank is not thrown too forward (which without great attention will happen), and thereby perhaps be exposed to the enemy's enfilade.

*** The words marked in Roman Characters are given by the commander of the battalion.

The words marked in *Italics* are given by the commander of the company.

Abstract.	Words of Command.	
1. When the battalion is halted, and wheels up by divisions of any kind to either flank (here the right).	Companies, right (or left) wheel. Quick march.	A caution.
	Halt, Dress.	By the leader of each company.
2. When the battalion is halted, and wheels backwards into open column of companies, (the right in front).	Companies, on your left backward wheel. Quick march.	The left-hand man of the front rank of the company faces inwards.
	Halt, Dress.	By the leader of each company.

3. When

Abſtract.		Words of Command.	
3. When diviſions are halted in column, and wheel up to either hand to form in line (to the left.)		To the left wheel into line. Quick March.	A caution.
		Halt, Dreſs.	By each leader of a diviſion.
4. When the head of the column wheels into a new direction, marches on, and is followed by the rear diviſions.	leading diviſion.	*Halt, Right, Wheel.*	One word of command, halt being merely a caution before the Quick March is taken up.
		Halt, Dreſs. March.	The firſt diviſion marches when the ſecond is within 2 paces, and thereby does not impede its wheel.
	ſucceeding diviſions.	*Halt, Wheel, Halt, Dreſs, March.*	Each ſucceeding diviſion wheels in the ſame manner as the leading one, and marches on when its preceding one is at its due diſtance.

Abstract.	Words of Command.	
		The right company stands fast, and the other companies are ordered to wheel into open column facing to that company.
5. From line to form open column of companies behind the right company.	Right Face.	Two companies that are to wheel face to the right.
	Quick March.	The serjeants successively take flank points, and the companies march in file.
	Halt, Front.	Each officer, successively, halts and fronts his company, when his flank man arrives at his serjeant.
6. When the column of companies is to change its front, by the countermarch of each company.	Companies will counter-march.	A caution.
	Right (or left) Face.	Each company faces.
	Quick March.	In file.
	Halt, Front.	Each company separately.
	Dress.	To the pivot flank.

7. When

Abſtract.	Words of Command.	
7. When the battalion is halted, and is to march in front.	The battalion will advance. March.	The center ſerjeants move out.
8. When the battalion is to halt.	Halt.	The advanced ſerjeants return to the battalion.
9. When the battalion is halted, and is to retire.	The battalion will retire. Right about face. March.	The ſerjeants move out.
10. When the battalion after retiring comes to its proper front.	Halt, front.	One command, and the ſerjeants return to the battalion.
11. From line to form cloſe column in front of the right diviſion.	Form cloſe column in front of the right diviſion.	A caution.
	Right Face. Quick March.	All the other companies face, and diſengage their leading flanks.
	Halt, Front. Left, Dreſs.	Each company.

12. From

Abſtract.	Words of command.	
12. From line to form cloſe column behind the right company, or diviſion.	Form cloſe column behind the right diviſion.	A caution.
	Right Face. Quick March.	All the other companies face, and diſengage their pivot flanks.
	Halt, Front. *Left, Dreſs.*	Each company ſucceſſively.
13. From line to form cloſe column on a central company.	Form cloſe column on the — company, the right in Front.	A caution.
	Inwards Face. Quick March.	All but the named company, and diſengage their pivot flank.
	Halt, Front. *Left, Dreſs.*	Each company ſucceſſively.
14. From cloſe column to form line on the front company (the right in front.)	Form line on the front company. Left Face. Quick March.	A caution.
	Halt, Front.	Each company when oppoſite to its ground.
	Dreſs. *March.*	
	Halt, Dreſs.	When arrived in line.

15. From

Abstract.	Words of Command.	
	Form line on the rear company,	A caution.
	Right face. Quick March.	All except the rear company.
15.	The rear company. — *March.*	As soon as uncovered.
From close column to form in line on the rear company (the right in front.)	The rear company. — *Halt, Dress.*	When it arrives in line.
	Each other company successively. — Halt. front.	When opposite its ground.
	Each other company successively. — *Dress.* *March.*	
	Each other company successively. — *Halt, Dress.*	When it arrives in line.
16.		
From close column (the right in front) to form line on a central company.	Form line on the —— company. Outwards face. Quick March.	

The named company, when uncovered, moves up into line to its marked flank.—Those that were in front of it, proceed as in forming on a rear company.—Those that are in rear of it, proceed as in forming on a front company.

In the deployments of the close column into line, a mounted officer HALTS, FRONTS each company or division (of which it is composed) successively.

THE END.